President THEINDEPENDENT

Thursday 23 October 1997

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America reveals her policy on global warming: too little, too late

President Bill Clinton finally revealed what the US was willing to do to combat man-made climate change - and it's not much. Europe, which wants to go further and faster, was deeply disappointed. Imre Karacs in Bonn, Mary Dejevsky in Washington and Nicholas Schoon report.

The United States is prepared to curb its fast-rising emissions of climate-shifting pollution, bringing them back down to their 1990 level by about 2010, President Clinton said in a long awaited speech last night.

But that was far too little, too late, for Britain and the European Union. The feeling was that the world's only superpower, and its higgest global polluter, should be doing much more to slow the rises in temperatures and sea levels which threaten ruin, displacement and death for hundreds of millions of people in the next century.

"That is simply not good enough and it's not going to solve the problems of climate change," Peter Jorgensen, the European Commission spokesman, said last night.

At the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, the US and all developed nations undertook to stabilise their "greenhouse gas" emissions at the 1990 level by 2000.

Very few have kept that promise, and the US position amounts to putting it back by a further decade.

Far from stabilising at the 1990 level by 2000, US emissions have in fact risen by 8 per cent, including 3.4 per cent in 1996 alone. With only one-twentieth of the Earth's population, America produces almost onc-

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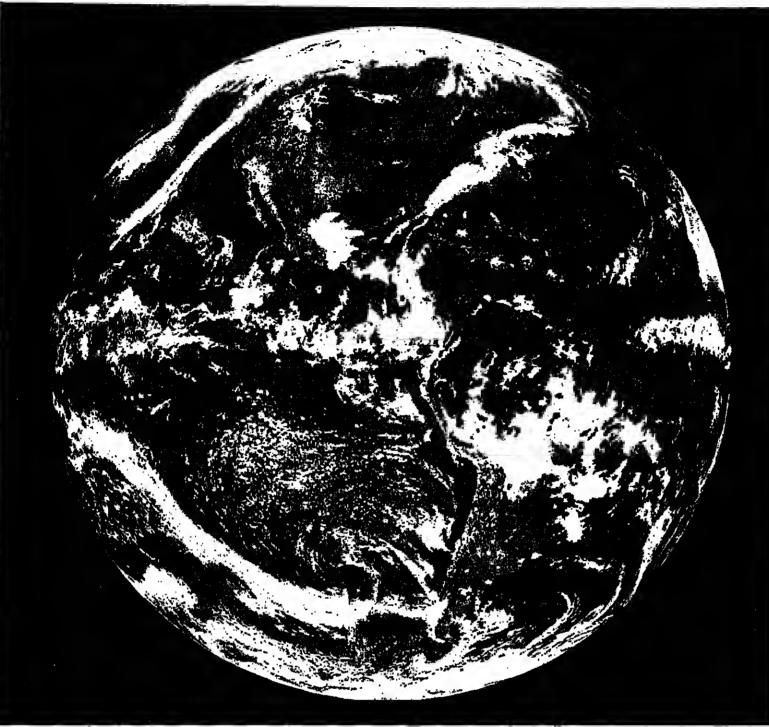
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fifth of the world's pollution. Nations climate summit in Kyoto, Japan, in December, proposing that developed countries should together return their emissions to 1990 levels by between 2008 and 2012. President Clinton set out his proposals yesterday in a spetta to the National Geographic Soriety, after months of wrangling within his administration. .

He has also faced ferocious lobbying by major US industries



Dirty business: Europe feels the US, the only superpower, and biggest polluter, should do more to clean up its act Photograph Science Photo Library

The US will go to a United from oil giants to car manufacturers which rely heavily on coal, oil and gas, the burning of which produces carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, and strong opposition in the US Senate. In an attempt to placate critics, he outlined a £3bn package of incentives - mostly in the form of tax breaks - 10 encourage industry to save power or to switch to less polluting

forms of energy. The President made his an-Union, the two higgest players

American position known in advance of the last set of preparatory negotiations before the Kyoto climate conference. Those talks started in Bonn this week. He telephoned several prime ministers and presidents earlier this week, including Tony Blair.

The Clinton proposal leaves the US and the European

nouncement just in time to in the climate talks, poles apart to meet the earlier commitment keep his promise to make the and with little time to stitch a compromise. The EU is calling for emission cuts of 15 per cent for developed countries by 2010. Japan is in the middle. advocating a 5 per cent cut.

None of these reductions would actually stop the climate changing. The immediate issue is what rate of change can be tolerated without severe threats to

lives and economies. The EU is roughly on target

to stahilise emissions by 2000.

While most member states have actually seen emissions. rise, hig cuts in Germany and Britain - more the result of accident than design - have off-

Britain shut down the bulk of its coal industry; coal produces far more carbon dioxide than the natural gas which replaces it. Germany closed much

of the highly inefficient, fossil-

fuel-intensive industry in the

At one end of the spectrum, the Alliance of Small Is-

land States, some of whose members will be largely submerged by rising sea levels in the next century, is pushing for a 20 per cent cut in carbon dioxide emissions by 2005. At the other end. Australia - whose industries are particularly reliant on fossil fucls - refuses to contemplate any curbs.

On its birthday too! (The world is 6,000 today)

The dome is still a building site, the lottery budget is unspent and the millennium bug is still pupating in our PCs, but the new millennium is upon us. The world is precisely 6,000 years old today. "In the beginning God created the Heavens and Earth, which beginning of time was in that night preceding the XXIII day of October ... in the year 4004 before the first of our Era, commonly called Christian."

Those authoritative words were written by James Ussher (pictured below), Anglican Archhishop of Armagh, in his Annals of the Old Testament published in 1650. To this day, no one has given a more precise date for the beginning of the world, which may explain why Ussher's date of 4004 BC was printed in every King James Bible until Victori-

an times.



That date was the fruit of the best learning of the 17th century. Ussher had studied all the Greek and Hebrew sources known at the time. He compared historical, biblical and astronomical records, as far back as Nebuchadnezzar: for still earlier times, he relied on the Hehrew hible. But counting backwards is not as easy as it

looks, Egyptians, Babylonians, Jews, and Romans all used years of different length, starting at different seasons. The Latin way of counting confused things further. Not only was there no year AD zero, but when Julius Caesar introduced his calendar in the Roman Empire the officials thought a leap year "every fourth year" meant every three years.

Ussher relied on the numbering system of the Frenchman Joseph Scaliger to sort out "these pertinacious difficulties". Unfortunately, France was already using the Gregorian calendar, while Britain deferred entry into the single European calendar and kept to the old Julian system. Despite this, once the year 4004 is known, the precise date of 23 October follows at once. God, of course, kept to the Jewish festival calendar (He had commanded it, after all) and the first day of the Feast of Weeks, calculated from the Equinox and the Moon in 4004 BC, was on Sunday 23 October.

James Ussher was a devoted millenarian. His calculations showed that Solomon completed his Temple 3000 years after the Creation; and he thought that Jesus was born in 4 BC. The 5000-year mark was when the Antichrist began his rule, corrupting the Popes. Sadly, Ussher made no predictions for what should happen today, at the start of the seventh millennium. Cosmology has taken over from Bible study for purposes of dating the world.

So, give or take a couple of solar quirks, let's Ussher in the millennium. Happy Birthday World - You're 6.000 today.

INSIDETODAY

23/OPINION

Polly Toynbee makes the case against Islam. Rupert Cornwell says fat is a serious issue. And John Walsh revels in the literary life at

EDUCATION+ Is the vice-chancellors' club breaking up?

Cheltenham's festival.



WEATHER The Eye, page 10 TELEVISION The Eye, page 12. CROSSWORDS Page 32 and

TODAY'S OTHER NEWS

Cosmetic animal tests opposed by Blakemore

Colin Blakemore, the scientist viewed by many anti- vivisectionists as "enemy number one", believes most experiments on animals to test cosmetics should be

banned, Professor Blakemore has told The Independent that killing animals to test new beauty products is indefensible. He called for an immediate end to animal experiments that are used to check the safety of finished cosmetic products.

The head of physiology at Oxford University and president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science has been an outspoken supporter of animal research. But he said yesterday: "Britain has lead the world in this moral issue. I think the banning of finished cosmetic products would be a step in the right direction." He added: "I find it difficult to see how the henefit of beautification outweighs the cost of killing animals and potential animal suffering.* His comments follow the disclosure in The Independent on Tuesday that the Government has broken its pre-election pledge to end the use of animals to test cosmetics, and that the research budget for non-animal alternatives has been cut.

Professor Blakemore revealed in 1972 he had sewn up kittens' eyes as part of a research project, his view that most cosmetic tests are unnecessary will increase pressure to change the law. He said he still supported the use of animals to test products such as sun-screen if they had the potential to save life. About 2,800 animals a year die in cosmetic tests compared to about 2.7 million in medical research. Interview, page 3

Church schools retreat

The Government looks set to back off plans to change the status of Church schools because bishops may frustrate legislation in the House of Lords. Page 10

Post won't be privatised

The Post Office will remain fully in public ownership in spite of recent speculation that the Government was planning to sell off 49 per cent of the corporation, raising up to £2.5bn. Page 4

Violence in the home

Four out of five children fear their parents' rows leading to physical violence, according to a study whose publication co-incided with a Government statement that domestic violence is "vastly under-estimated". Page 5

SEEN & HEARD

The meat-free camera sounds about as necessary as the fat-free television or protein-enriched bus, doesn't it? But the Vegetarian Society yesterday gave its approval to a Japanese digital camera certified free of animal ingredients "in any of its component parts". Traditional film contains gelatine, derived from animal bones and skin. Digital cameras don't use film - images are captured on a computer chip. So the £300 Ricon RDC-300 really is vegetarian-friendly - like any digital camera, actually.

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COLUMN ONE

Scientists say rats to the evolution of love

You may have thought that evolution had it all pegged out, but then along comes another slew of research that puts the sexual world right out of

In theory, men produce millions of sperm which can fertilise lots of eggs, so they will naturally try to be unfaithful swine, seeking to father children everywhere; whereas women produce just one egg a month and so will seek a faithful partner who will support their mutual child. The antagonism between the two objectives means men want out of marriage, right?

Wrong, according to a survey of the nation's marriages published yesterday. About half of the respondents felt that having children was an important factor for a successful marriage - but 60 per cent of men thought that children were an asset, compared to just 50 per cent of women. Evolutionary hiologists will shake their heads, and query whether the men thought the children were the sort of asset you could trade on the stock market - for a flash car, perhaps.

It gets worse. It turns out that it is women who want to be out of these marriages, not men. BBC Family Life magazine asked 282 couples if, given the chance to relive their lives and that nervous moment at the altar again, they would marry the same partner. Of the men questioned, 71



per cent said "yes"; as against only 56 per cent of the women. Overall, 10 per cent said they definitely wouldn't do the same again. Given that divorces are running at about four times that level, there must be some polished liars out there - a possibility that opinion polls should allow for.

However, laboratory rats don't lie. They stirred up what seemed like a tidy world yesterday, when the science journal Nature published a report showing that sex alters the physical makeup of your brain. At least, that is, if you're a male rat.

At the University of California, Marc Breedlove gave male rats female cage-mates, some of which were receptive to the males because they were given the hormone oestrogen, and others which were unreceptive because of a lack of oestrogen. After a month, Dr Breedlove (who, arguably, has a little too much time on his hands) looked at the male rat hrains. In rats that had been placed with sexually receptive females, the cells in a hormone-sensitive part of the brain were actually smaller than in rats that had no sexual experience. "It is possible that differences in sexual behaviour cause, rather than are caused by, differences in brain structure," Dr Breedlove commented.

And what does that tell us of the war between the sexes? Well, referring back to the BBC survey, which found that a good love life came only third in the "most important" list of things (at 72 per cent, after "compromise" and "good sense of humour") it is obvious what is going on. British men just don't want their hrains messed about with. And if that means upsetting everything that evolution tells us, so be it.

- Charles Arthur and Amanda Kelly

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PEOPLE



Media mother joins battle with Saatchi's giant.

Christine Walker, a woman unknown to most of the public hut who is acknowledged as the most pow-erful woman in British advertising, is to fight a court hattle with her former employers so she can set up

her own company after having a haby. Ms Walker, 44, was chief executive of Zenith Media, the part of the Saatchi and Saatchi empire now called Cordiant, which bought and placed advertising worth in excess of £500m, more than double that of its nearest rivals. The size of her buying power put her on first-name terms with the media's main power brokers, including Rupert Murdoch, Michael Green of Carlton Television and David Montgomery of Mirror Group.

She left Zenith in January to have a baby, after nearly 10 years with the company, and was prevented by her £399,000-a-year contract from working in the industry until this Saturday. Zenith is taking her to court because of rumours that she is to set up a jointventure media-buying company with Lord Saatchi.

Lord Saatchi, formerly Maurice Saatchi, who was ennobled by John Major, left the agency he founded after a boardroom battle three years ago. Zenith wants to enforce clauses in Ms Walker's contract which prevent her from poaching Zenith staff or

clients for a further 12 months. An injunction has been granted for 14 days enforcing the non-approach clauses despite Ms Walker arguing that Zenith breached the contract in August and it is no longer enforceable. The agency is likely to have a battle on its hands. Ms Walker was considered a formidable negotiator by the TV stations and newspapers who negotiated multi-million pound advertising contracts with her. She was immortalised as the stereotypical hard-driven businesswoman who lives for her work in the 1994 book The Executive Tart and Other Myths.

Saatchi and Saatchi has made previous legal attempts to prevent its top executives, including Jeremy Sinclair, the man who created the "Labour isn't working" campaign for the Conservative Party in 1979, from joining its founding partners.

Lord Saatchi set up a new agency in 1995, M&C Saatchi, with his brother Charles. Now both Saatchi agencies are hitter rivals. The conflict stems from the ability of key executives to form strong relationships with advertisers who will move millions of pounds worth of business to wherever the executive works. Companies like British Airways moved their accounts with the brothers when they left Saatchi and Saatchi. -- Paul McCann

movic, Boogie Nights, which will

receive its UK premiere in Lon-

ing which means under-17s must

be accompanied by adults. A

satire on the porn industry, it fol-

lows British comedy success The

Full Monty which climaxed with

and, until now, unknown in Hol-

lywood: The Crying Game had as

its pivotal moment a shot of male

genitalia. Erections are, however,

not allowed in mainstream movies

- David Liste

Male nudity is rare in films,

rear views of its protagonists.

In America, the film had a rat-

don in the new year.

to classes for Gladstone's girl

Olivia Inge would have brought a smile of approval to the face of her great great grandfather, the Victorian prime minister William Gladstone, when she spurned a job on the catwalk in favour of her The 17-year-old schoolgirl

From catwalk

(right) turned down a £10,000-a-day offer from top French model agency Metropolitan so that she could fmish her exams. Yesterday, after a two-week

stint in Paris working for fashion houses Yves St Laurent and Comme des Garçons alongside top models, including Naomi Campbell. Olivia was back in the classrooms of the Wells Cathedral School in Somersct.

"Paris was absolutely fantastic but now I want to concentrate on getting my A-levels," she said. "It is going to be difficult putting it

Mark strips off last shred of modesty Mark Wahlberg has made a footnote in movie history, although foot is perhaps not the most appropriate word. .The actor and former model, known as Marky Mark, will become the first to have a fullfrontal shot in a Hollywood

all behind me for the time being because it was a different world. But I hope to be able to come back to earth very quickly. I know how important it is for me to pass these

But Olivia, who is studying English, French and Theatre Studies, has not ruled out a carcer in front of the camera and still does the odd hit of work for Londonbased agency Models 1.

on either side of the Atlantic. — Amanda Keliy

UPDATE

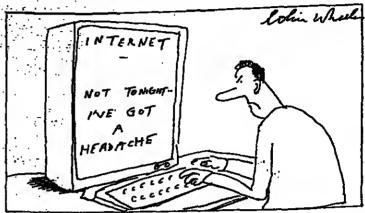
INTERNET

Lots of sex please, we're surfers

It's official. The vast majority of "net surfers" are after one thing, and one thing only. Sex. Every two seconds, in fact.

Or so says a survey conducted by a new consumer guide to the Internet which analysed the top 200 search words entered by users over one month to find out the most commonly requested topics. The result? The A Internet was swamped by 1,553,420 requests for "sex" and 414,320 applications for "chat" (not as innocuous a request as it may first appear). "XXX" was at number three in the chart, with 397, 640 requests, followed by "Playboy" with 390,920. Other top-ten contenders included "nude" and "porno", both with more than a quarter of a million fans. Many users displayed considerable ingenuity in their search for sexual enlightenment, with guest appearances by "Persian kitty", "hardcore" and "cyberporn".

But this trend is unlikely to last, claims Mike Cowley of The Web. Take my word for it," he said, "shopping will be far more popular than sex on the Internet by the year 2000."



MEDICINE

Chillies burn a way to pain relief

It could mean new treatments for chronic pain; or it might just offer a treatment for people who find chilli-ridden Mexican food too hot to handle. Scientists in America have discovered the chemical messenger in the body which signals painful heat, including that caused by chilli peppers.

David Julius and Michael Caterina, of the University of California in San Francisco, worked with capsaicin, the pungent ingredient in chilli peppers, and found that a chemical called vanilloid receptor subtype 1 (VR1) is activated when it binds to capsaicin. The work, published today in the science journal Nature, reveals that painful temperatures work in a similar way and cause the same sensation of burning heat that chillis bring on in the mouth. The result could help us to understand what causes pain sensations, and in time to understand how we become tolerant to them.

CLOTHES

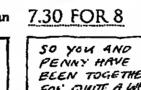
Woolly jumpers to lose their itch

Scientists have found an answer to itchy woollen jumpers - a fibre that can make scratchy material "feel like cashmere", it was revealed today.

Kurabo Industries, a Japanese clothing manufacturer, has developed a way of stretching and thinning individual fibres to take out the tickle. The fibres are treated chemically to expose more of their inner parts, which do not irritate the skin. New Scientist magazine reported: "The resulting wool is not only less itchy, but also lighter. It feels like cashmere." Kurabo will use the new material, Corrielana, to make extra-light clothes. . . .

TOURIST RATES Australia (dollars) Italy (lira) Austria (schillings) 19.91 194.59 Japan (yen) Malta (lira) Belgium (francs) 58.44 0.62Canada (\$) 2.21 Netherlands (guilders) 3.19 Cyprus (pounds) 0.83 Norway (kroner) 11.52 Denmark (kroner) 10.85 Portugal (escudos) 286.65 France (francs) 9.49 Spain (pesetas) 238.02 Germany (marks) 2.84 Sweden (kroner) 12.28 Greece (drachmei) 146.44 2.37 Switzerland (francs) Hong Kong (\$) 12.25 Turkey (lira) 282,755 Ireland (punts) 1.08 United States (\$) 1.59 Thomas Cook













"A BRILLIANT, DERANGED,

HEART-MELTING, HIGH SPEED ROMANCE" SOPRIE WILSON - SKY MAG ALIFE LESS

TOMORROW AT A CINEMA NEAR

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The ultimate accessory: Pupils with their mobile phones. Some schools have taken to banning the phones from classrooms Photograph: Rui Xavier

The mobile phone: a must for clued-up Nineties pupils

Once the quiet of the classroom was likely to be interrupted only by scraping chairs, or sniggering from the back. These days it is more likely to be the ring of a mobile phone. Jojo Moyes takes up the call.

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Section 10

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by Chris Pre

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Heralded by the Hollywood movie Clueless, mobile phones and pagers are fast becoming as essential a part of school baggage as gym kit. At the end of the school day, any school gate features at least one uniformed teenager, schoolbag slung over

recent Gallup poll commissioned by Motorola found that take them back into classes. young people use pagers as a means of "socialising and flirting". They are also a fashion statement.

The news that mobile telephones have been banned from another school will come as no surprise to teachers frustrated of communications devices.

The ban at George Watson's College in Edinburgh, follows similar bans at schools such as Millfield in Somerset and Holly Hall in Dudley, West Midlands, and was introduced after a pupil's phone rang during lessons. Now errant pupils one shoulder and phone will have their mobile phones - through no fault of the teach- ever so keen on phones that "ethically difficult".

the day, and then be told not to interest in where they're going

the school's board of governors,

said that it was thought better to take action before the ring- friend might be talking to someing of mobile phones became a one else," she said. "real problem". According to Sue Berryman, a mother-of-four from by the constant bleep and ring north London who works in the existent running costs, although

education sector, phone use is now the norm in her children's Many children, considering schools, with pupils using them largely to call their friends before and after class. What they seem to be doing is no different to what kids receiving a hill for £200. "I've

have done for ever: not taking

a great deal of interest in lessons

pressed to an ear. Similarly, a confiscated until the end of ena- and displaying much more have free weekend calls. But if they call them from home the at lunchtime, and who with. cost is astronumic. It's a whole Andrew Cubic, chairman of Also, in a mixed comprehensive extra disciplinary area." in particular there's the constant

A lot of the children also had

part-time work to pay for them.

Bul Mrs Berryman was forced

That said, many parents feel anxiety that the boyfriend or girlit is worth paying for the phones just to ensure that their offsprine have a way of keeping in touch.

Mr Cubic observed: "The pagers - an option popular culture of life is different to with parents due to low, or nonwhen you or I were at school. Parents now give these phones to children for safety to go to less so among the teenagers. and come from school." phone usage "a priority", do

But the growth in the classroom communications market is not one that most other moto put a ban on the calls after hile phone providers seem particularly comfortable discussing. Mercury One-to-One said that had to get a grip on it. I got an itemised phone hill. They're marketing to teenagers was

Nanny's mother tells trial of happy daughter

The big-gun medical experts keep on testifying in the Louise Woodward trial and the prosecution's case against her is looking ever more frayed. Yesterday, though, the court heard from one of the more important character witnesses in the case, Susan Woodward, the defendant's mother. David Lisborne was there.

Pressed by the prosecution to describe Matthew Eappen, the small boy whom her own daughter, Louise Woodward, is alleged to have brutally murdered on 4 February, Susan Woodward found herself fighting back tears vesterday. In a broken voice, she

replied simply: "He was a beautiful child". Drought by the defence as a character witness, Mrs Woodward recounted for the jury a visit she payed to the Eappen family between Boxing Day and New Year's Day last year.

She confirmed that during that week, she also had cared for the then 8-month-old Matthew, taken him for strolls and "rocked him to sleeo".

Otherwise, it was mostly maternal emotion on display on the stand, as Mrs Woodward beamed encouraging smiles across the courtroom at her daughter, who stands accused of violently shaking Matthew and stamming his head against a hard surface in a manner sufficient to have caused his death on 9 February.

Louise, who has maintained a mostly blank, if attentive, demeanour throughout her trial, returned her own tentative smiles towards the stand.

Mrs Woodward, who, as a witness, has been harred from seeing her daughter for the duration of the trial, also painted a picture of Louise enjoying her experience with the Eappens which began after she transferred from another family in the area on 18 November last year.

When she arrived for her visit on 26 December she found Louise was "doing very well, she was very happy", Mrs Woodward

Meanwhile, yet another renowned medical expert came to the stand yesterday to straight, noose or loose, choice.

back up the defence's contention that Matthew in fact had suffered an earlier brain injury that had created a blood clot on the brain that began catastrophically to re-hleed on or just before 4 February.

Dr Ayuh Ommaya, a specialist in neurosurgery and bio-mechanics, testified that the re-bleeding caused a sudden and exponentially accelerating build-up of pressure inside Matthew's head. That pressure, he said, eventually bore down on his brain stem, which is at the base of the hrain, and disabled it. The stem, he said, is "like the plug of your TV. If you pull it out, everything stops".

Dr Ommaya also testified on the substance of two papers authored by himself on the phenomenon "talk, deteriorate and die", which describes how patients who suffer blows to the head and for a period of minutes, hours, even weeks, show no symptoms of distress. They collapse and usually die later when clots, or hematomas, created by the initial incident, begin to re-

Importantly, Dr Ommaya agreed with the defence lawyer Barry Scheck that symptoms displayed by Matthew in the hours before his collapse - unusual lethargy, loss of appetite and constipation matched those of talk-deteriorate-anddie patients. "Those were precisely the symptoms we would expect".

With the case expected to be given to the jury next Tuesday, the defence will need to decide shortly whether the jurors should be asked to consider a range of convictions, ranging from first-degree murder down to involuntary manslaughter or whether to take a gamble known among lawyers in Massachusetts as the "noose or loose"

Under this scenario, the defence would ask that the jurors he given only the straight choice between guilty as charged on first-degree murder or innocence and therefore acquittal.

Much may still hang on the appearance on the stand that is still scheduled of the defendant herself, which could come today or on Monday. (There will be no session

But such has been the mood of confidence on the defence bench in recent days. the temptation will be strong for the

Animal rights groups' hate figure changes tack on testing cosmetics

One of the leading exponents of animal experiments has changed his mind on the question of cosmetic testing. The shift, writes Jason Bennetto, will add pressure on the Government to introduce a ban.

For the past 10 years Professor Colin Blakemore has been a hate figure among animal rights

groups.

The Oxford University scientist has had windows smashed and his three children threatened with kidnapping; in 1993 a bomh packed with needles was sent to his home; and in August paint stripper was poured over his car. At one stage he had 400 campaigners demonstrating outside his house.

Now one of Britain's most vocal supporters of vivisection is in danger of becoming a champion of animal rights.

He told The Independent esterday that he supports a ban on most testing of cosmetics on animals. He wants companies to immediately end animal testing on all beauty products.

Professor Blakemore, 53, he-



Blakemore: 'Insufficient Justification for cosmetics tests'

get in 1972 when he revealed he had sewn up kittens' eyes under anaesthetic. The research helped medical understanding of amblyopia, the commonest form of child blindness.

Professor Blakemore said

came animal activists' main tar- Government have to decide whether there's merit in developing new products - whether having a new anti-dandruff shampoo is such a benefit that it outweighs the death of some

"There should not just be yesterday: "The public and the more lookalike products that

don't significantly improve ex-isting products.

"For beauty aids, such as blushers, lipstick and mascara, I find it difficult to see how sufficient benefit can be made to justify the death of animals."

"Cosmetic manufacturers should be telling us why its nec-essary. No one is killing animals for fun."

Professor Blakemore will appear on Channel 5's What's the Story? on Sunday at 7pm to discuss why he supports an end to testing of beauty products. He believes products such as

sun screen, which could save life, should be re-classified as medicines so that animal testing can continue. About 2,800 animals die

each year on cosmetic tests compared to 2.7 million for medical research.

Calls for a ban of cosmetic testing are also supported by Anita Roddick, founder of The Body Shop, who has written to Tony Blair to express her anger at the government U-turn.

 The number of laboratory animals killed each year could be up to 400,000 more than the official figure because they ignore animals used in test tube experiments, according to Animal Aid, the British anti-vivisection group, in a report in New Scientist magazine.



IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT



THE EYE

After 'Shallow Grave' and 'Trainspotting', Messrs Boyle, MacDonald and Hodge have decided to go west. Well, it's 'A Life Less Ordinary', says Adam Mars-Jones

PLUS interviews with Julia Ormond, Gavin Rossdale (the pretty boy from Bush) and Bernard D'Ascoli (the blind pianist from Paris)

Post Office to remain in public hands

The Government has decided that the Post Office must remain fully in state ownership. Barrie Clement, Labour Editor, also reveals that restrictions on its ability to borrow are likely to

remain

Senior managers inside the Post Office had been speculating that 49 per cent of it might be sold to the private sector, but Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, has decided that it should remain the to civil service sources.

It is also understood that the Treasury has opposed any plan to place the Post Office outside the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement. That means the corporation will be unable to raise funds in private capital markets - a long-cherished amhition.

It will also mean that the Post Office will still be banned from undertaking joint ventures with private sector husinesses. As long as it comes within the PSBR, any venture tomatically be underwritten by the Government and therefore potentially in breach of European competition law.

The Government's decision will be relayed next week to John Roberts and Mike Heron, chief executive and chairman respectively of the Post Office, by Ian McCartney, trade and industry minister. The decision means that the Exchequer and the Stock Exchange will miss out on the flotation of shares worth between £1bn and £2.5bn.

ownership of the Post Office, but alternative."

they were adamant that the organisation should be taken out of PSBR constraints in order to allow commercial freedom.

Mr Roberts said last week that as long as the Post Office remained within state spending and borrowing limits, any changes would be "cosmetic and around the edges". To sweeten the pill, ministers may suggest that new capital ventures, maybe launched under the existing Public Finance Initiative system.

Senior Post Office managers are anxious that the organisation is no longer seen as a "cash cow" by ministers. Last year, it contributed £500m to the Exchequer through a compulproperty of the state, according sory "dividend" to the state, and

Management was particularly keen to compete with the privatised Dutch mail service which recently acquired the TNT group. The Post Office was also seeking husiness opportunities overseas, but its ambitions will now be circumscribed.

Senior managers have long argued that the external financial limits were sensible for guiding the operations of goverument departments, but not for providing incentives to cominvolving the Post Office will au- mercial bodies within the public sector

Tony Blair told the Commons in November 1994 that the Tory government's legislative programme should have included a Bill about the Post Office, "not to privatise it, hat to liberate it within the private "Such a Bill would pass with

virtually unanimous support," he said. "Why is it not in the Queen's speech? The reason is that, although the Government do not have the courage to pri-Both Mr Heroo and Mr vatise the Post Office, their Roberts have publicly declared dogma prevents them from themselves agnostic about the adopting the only sensible



Tony Blair enjoys the buzz in the pit with traders at the London International Financial Fetures and Options Exchange, in the City of London yesterday

MEPs barred from group meetings after spurning code of conduct

Four Labour Members of the European Parliament were yesterday barred from all further

meetings of their group after refusing to accept a code of conduct.

Anthony Bevins reports on a unprecedented act of Euro-discipline.

Wayne David, leader of the European Parliamentary Labour Party, reacted firmly to an act of outright rebellioo from four colleagues, who defied an ultimatum to accept a gag about "any aspect of the party selection procedures" for caodi-

Keo Coates, Hugh Kerr, Alex Falconer and Michael

the privileges of membership" of the party - they could no longer attend meetings of the 62-strong Labour group in the Parliament.

Conservative MEPs - who could yet have problems of their own with a party leadership that is more Eurosceptic than they are - duhbed the rehels the "Strasbourg Four" and used the crackdown as an illustration of Tony Blair's "control freak" personality.

Mr David said: "This is not something that we like doing, but we think it very important by Mr Blair and his colleagues that Labour MEPs, like everyone else in the Labour Party, accepts collective decisions and procedures which have been agreed by the National Executive Committee."

He also said it was ponsense

Hindley were told by Mr David to claim - as the rebels have Blairites, young men and that they were "suspended from done - that the code of conduct was in hreach of parliamentary

> The struggle appears very much a last-ditch fling by the rebels who, as old-guard Labour, might expect not to be favoured for the party list of candidates that is proposed under the proportional representadoo system to be introduced for the 1999 European parliamentary elections.

> As diehards, they could expect short shrift from any centrafised selection procedures that might well be introduced on the all-powerful national executive committee.

Mr Kerr, MEP for Essex West and Hertfordshire East, said: "They want to get rid of troublesome Items; like me.

women who are oot independeut and difficult members like Ken Coates and me."

Earlier, announcing their intention to defy a timed ultimatum, Mr Coates and Mr Kerr told Simon Murphy, the party whip: "The question at issue is profoundly important because it goes to the root of our democracy.

They said in a joint letter; Serious changes are being proposed in the British electoral system. It is not only our right but our duty to insist that these issues should be fully explained and discussed.

"Democracy depends oo opeo communication with the electors through any available medium whether this takes place in meetings, in the columns of the press or on They want to replace us with radio or on television."

Ashdown accuses Labour of acting like the Tories

Labour was yesterday accused by Paddy Ashdown of behaving like Tories on health and school spending. Anthony Bevins, Political Editor, marks a difference between two political allies.

The Government could not have it both ways, the Liberal Democrat leader said yesterday. Either it stuck to Tory spending limits, or it made good its promises to improve services but it could not do both.

A Liberal Democrat analysis showed the pressures of inflation, with the inherited Conservative spending plans, slice £430m off the NHS budgets this year, with £790m being lost next year. Even after the extra £270m promised by the Chancellor for the NHS this winter, and £1.2bu next year, the NHS would be only marginally better off over the two years to March 1999.

But even that slight boous could be wiped out by the costs of dealing with the difficulties faced by the NHS with the Year 2000 computer problem which has to be cleared up within the next two years.

A similar cash crisis is being forecast by the Liberal Democrat number-crupchers for the education system, and Mr Ashdown said Labour was proving to be the "natural partners with the Conservatives" over health and education spending. Opening his party's "Make the Difference" campaign to pressure the Government into increasing spending plans in spring's Budget, Mr Ashdown said he was delighted more money had al-

ready been committed. But he warned: "Despite extra cash and some savings, higher inflation means that real NHS spending is still going to be £160m lower this year than that very well."

planned last year [because of inflation], while across all deparaments, a total of more than £5bn has been sliced off next year's budgets." MPs suspect Mr Ashdown is

trying to compensate for the closeness between the Gove ernment and the Liberal Democrats over constitutional change, for which a unique Cabinet committee has been created. With the Winchester and Beckenham by-elections pending, the Liberal Democrats will need to create some space between themselves and their Labour opponents if they are 10. hold or gain ground against the Tories. Mr Ashdown told BBC



Ashdown: Inflation warning

Radio 4's Today programme: We fought the election of hringing in a rather more ra tional style of politics in this

"Where you agree with the Government you should work with them and deliver the things that are good for Britain, like modernisation of our constitut tion. We are natural partners with the Labour Party in the modernisation of Britain's coilstitution. But I fear it appear to me that in a sense Labour are natural partners with the Conservatives when it comes to funding health and education and proper public services. I think the public understands

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What children really fear: their parents fighting

More than four out of five of our children are worried about domestic violence, a new report claims. The Government says it will impose a "zero tolerance" strategy on violence in the home. Glenda Cooper, Social Affairs Correspondent, looks at) families living in the socalled "age of anxiety".

The level of domestie violence in Britain has been "vastly underestimated". Harriet Harman, the Minister fur Women, said vesterday. She pledged concerted Government action tu tackie the issue after a report found that a large percentage of children feared violence in home and school.

The research carried out for NCH Action for Children surveyed 1,000 purents and 250 children about family life. Their findings concluded that childhood today is nut a carefree time, with 82 per cent of children womed about violence inauding into their world.

Ms Horman told a seminar beld by the charity that "violcoce by men against their wife or partner is one of the most serious problems facing society to-

She continued: "Domestic violence is no respecter of class or background - it affects women of all walks of life, rich and poor, black and white, young and old, in all areas of the country.

Domestic violence was the single most common form against womeo, she said. In 1995, 43 per cent of all assaults against women were committed by their partners.

"The scale of the problem has been vastly underestimated. because only 25 per cent of domestic violence is reponed.

"Seventy-nine per cent of the parents surveyed in this report agreed with the statement that a lot of violence that goes on within families is kept secret, so those families dun't get the help they need."

Ms Harman said she wanted the Government to help bring about a change in public attitude towards domestic violence, in the same way that a Government campaign in the 1980s brought about a radical change in public feeling about drink-driving.

There should be "zero tolerance" of the problem, she said, adding: "We have to say very clearly that no violence in violence outside the home is a about jobs). A similar number showing that most children are the rate of societal change is ac-nets which people fall back on

Family at war: Kathy Burke and Ray Winston who star in the film NII By Mouth, directed by Gary Oldman, which depicts violence in the home

criminal offence.

The report found that childrug and alcohol abuse, and a

were worried about poverty and homelessness, and between dren were also concerned about half and two thirds express fears about lack of facilities for chillack of jobs for young people dren and poor standards in the bome is acceptable, just as 4 three in four were worried schools - "the latter probably more insecure, in part because ravelling of many of the safety

ultimately, jobs lying abead of them," the report says.

"Clearly life is becoming of insecurity, namely the un-

only two aware of the competition for academic success and, the world of work. But some Cutbacks in the benefit specially in terms of in times of trouble," it says. thing else is happening alongside this to compound the sense

Cutbacks in the benefit system, a health service under pressure and uncertainty about care in old age have all contributed to this sense of unease. With the most important support system for most now being the family, the increasing scale of family breakdown means the support system can be seen

as a "rather fragile bulwark". The charity calls for action. We might argue that it is sad if pareots and children are worried, but that is simply a product of the turbulent times we live in. But there are strong reasons for rejecting this approach because concerns of these kinds undermine the confidence of both children and parents, and make it less likely that they will be able to take advantage of educational and other opportunities. They make underachievement a self-fulfilliog

Tackling family violence should be a priority, including putting women's refuges on a more secure financial footing, establishing confidential services across the country for children and other family victims of abuse and incorporating domestic violence awareness training into training for doctors, social workers the police teachers and youth workers.

It also recommends that more emphasis should be put on combatting bullying at school, targeting young people most vulnerable to youth unemployment and building up support structures for families and com-

And it may be pregnant women who suffer most

Concern is growing that pregnancy is often the trigger for violent attacks on women by their husbands or partners, Ian Burrell explains that 1,000 pregnant women are to be questioned in the first publicly-funded investigation of the problem in Britain.

"He just hit me too hard this once," murmured a pregnant an to a nurse in the south

MPERATIVEBAT

London ante-natal clinic. Although her jaw was brohen in three places, she was not seeking medical attention, only a certificate to get time off work. Nurses later found she had been beaten regularly by her boyfriend while carrying their child, but felt he had done

Midwives have now been asked to help assess how many violent attacks on women by their partners are because the woman is pregnant. A report will be submitted to the Department of Health and new guidelines are likely to be drawn up for ourses and midwives to identify womeo at risk.

Research in America and Scandinavia has found that 17 per cent of women experience three mooths of their pregnanted at the breasts or abdomen. Nicola Harwin, of the

men's Aid Federation, said: "Part of the romantic ideal in our society is that jealousy and possessiveness are flattering. But that's bow the violent resaid. "Then, when the child is conceived, it is seen as a threat."

She said pregnant women were sometimes attacked by

their partners because they were not sexually available.

The new British research will he headed by Dr Gill Mezey, a consultant in Forensic Psychiatry at St George's Hospital Medical School in London, and Dr Susan Bewley, director of obstetrics at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Trust,

Dr Bewley said there were concerns that new measures designed to encourage husdomestic violence in the first bands and boyfriends to be present at childbirth and during cv, and blows are often target- pregnancy care were making it more difficult for pregoant women to report domestic vio-

> She said: "As a society we are encouraging greater involvement of men in childcare,

but for some vulnerable women lationship oftco starts off," she this may not be a good thing," Dr Bewley said there were unplanned pregnancies were most likely to trigger violence.

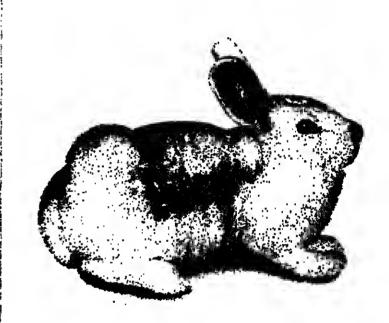
Beauty can be an ugly business. About 30,000 animals are still being killed in Europe each year in cosmetic testing.

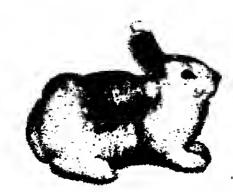
In allergy skin tests, the fur is shaved from the backs of guinea pigs and the test chemical is applied. Often, in such a concentrated form that it can burn right through the skin.

The tests drag on for at least 7 days before these poor, mutilated 'stimulas-response models' are put out of their misery.

Mcanwhile, just to make sure a new shampoo, or shower gel doesn't sting, it is squirted into the eyes of animals. Rabbits are preferred because they cannot produce chough tears to wash away the irritants. Their large eyes also make it easier to observe the chemical ulceration of the eyeballs.

Why are these tests that started over 50 years ago allowed to continue, when up to 8,000 cosmetic ingredients are already known to be safe? Do we really need more?





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3M Health Care continues to be committed to maintaining the highest standards of manufacturing quality. We are discontinuing this product in the best interests of the patient and apologise for any concern or inconvenience that this may cause.

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3M Health Care

Mother tells of tragedy in wake of baby's death

The mother of a baby girl whn died during a hole-in-the-heart operation broke down in tears yesterday as she described how her partner took his life in the wake of the child's death, and she considered "joining them".

Helen Rickard was giving evidence against three doctors from the Bristol Royal Infirmary who are charged with serious professional misconduct following the deaths of 29 children over a number of years.

Ms Rickard said her partner Andy placed a bin-liner over his head and suffocated a few days before the second anniversary nf baby Samantha's death.

She said: "Andy never got over Samantha's death. He kept having nightmares where he saw her calling him from the dark saying, 'Where are you? I can't find you'. They had a very strong bond between them. After Samantha's death, Andy became very introspective, spending time at Samantha's grave. Even though we had a second baby, Ben, he could never accept Samantha not be-

Ms Rickard said her partner had died listening to a Chris de

played driving home from the hospital after Samantha's death.

She added: "I very seriously thought about joining them but where would that leave Ben, who's four and a half now. You pick up the pieces and carry on. Ben says his sister and father are in heaven, but sometimes he asks when his daddy will pick him up from school. It's very distressing."

The couple took Samantha to the Bristol Royal Infirmary a few days before her first birthday. She died during an operation on 3 February, 1992.

Earlier she had told the General Medical Council hearing that a surgeon, Mr James Wisheart, had told her and her partner that Bristol was one of the best hospitals and that Samantha could live a normal healthy life.

Mr Wisheart, 59, who has since resigned; fellow-surgeon Mr Janardan Dhasmana, 58; and Dr John Roylance deny misconduct relating to 53 operations between 1988 and 1995 in which 29 babies died and four suffered serious brain damage.

The hearing is concerned with the ethical issues and not Burgh recording that they had with criminal negligence,

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Christine Hamilton and her husband, the disgraced former Tory MP Neil Hamilton, in London yesterday, where Mrs Hamilton was launching her book on celebrated female battleaxes Photograph: Peter Macdiarmid

OFFERS END

29th OCTOBER

Open University backs loans for part-time students

half a million part-time undereducation budget, a new study

The report, commissioned by the Open University from the consultants London Economics, suggests extending loans to lowincome part-time students to encourage anore people to go to

Under the Government's proposals, full-time undergraduates will have to contribute towards tuition fees from next September. At the same time, grants will be phased out but students will have access to state-subsidised loans to cover living costs.

The Open University, the Opening up the Government's The Open University, the new student loans scheme to largest provider of part-time undergraduate degrees in Britain, graduates would add no more is hailing its study findings as evthan L5 per cent to the higher idence of the feasibility of allowing part-timers access to loans for the first time.

The university, and others with high numbers of part-time students, hope to use the report to challenge the Government to reconsider its decision to confine loans to full-time undergraduates. The OU research, based on the assumption that loans would be available only to part-time students with an income of less than £10,000, suggests the public expenditure cost of extending the scheme would be no more than £147m.

even by 2016. Lifelong learning minister Kim Howells last night pledged to study the report closely as part of efforts to widen access to higher education.

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See See May 1849

THE REPORT OF the same of the

For Marine Street

· Lecturers in many of the country's further education cot? leges will not receive even a regiq ommended below-inflation pay, rise this year as colleges strug-gle to survive a funding crisis.

The university and college lecturers' union, NATFHE, yesterday warned of plummeting morale as its annual pay survey revealed one in eight colleges cannot afford salary increases. The low settlements mean lecturers' pay will shamp further behind secondary schoolteachers' salaries.

Education Correspondent In the Eye: Education +

Trial told of IRA explosives cache

A cache of explosives and am-munition - linked to an al-prints were found on the door leged IRA terrorist shnt dead by police - was found two months ago, near Chelsea football ground, an Old Bailey court was told yesterday.

It was the second safe lockup unit discovered after the arrest of four members of an IRA active service unit plotting to bomb London last year, the prosecution alleged. The jury was told that the first was rented under a false name by James cused of conspiring to cause explosions between 1 January and 24 September last year

and possessing explosives. Kelly, 31, Brian McHugh, 31, and Michael Phillips, 22, deny the charges.

The jury was told that masked men had raided the storage firm at Shepherd's Bush, west London, six weeks after Mr Murphy's arrest. They were searching for the noit held under in the name of Murphy and removed its contents. other units. We say that unit was

prints were found nn the door and certain items," said David Waters, for the prosecution. A box marked .762 rifle ammunition from Yugoslavia and traces of explosives were discovered

More ammuniting - and high explosives - came to light at a storage firm in Chelsea in August this year, said Mr Waters. It had been rented to a Inhn Wilson in 1993. Rent had been paid up until September Murphy, one of four men ac- 1996, but Mr Wilson did not appear after July 1996.

Over a year later, the padlock was cut and a sports bag was found, containing seven Mr Murphy, 26, Patrick sealed packets of ammunition, loose bullets, four blacks of Semtex explosive and 12 timing units, said Mr Waters. He alleged the man known as John Wilson was in fact a suspected

IRA activist, Diarmuid O'Neill. Mr O'Neill - said to be at the heart of an IRA plot to launch a lorry bomb attack in London - was shot dead as police went to arrest him at a west London "Nothing was missing from the hotel in September last year.

The trial continues today.

20 years for killer who burnt woman's body

A man who murdered and set alight a university graduate after she fought off his sex attack," was jailed yesterday for a minimum of 20 years.

Duncan Bermingham, 32,of Longsight, Manchester, was found guilty of murdering. Rachel Thacker, 21, after she got into his car thinking it was a taxi during a night nut with

The jury at Manchester Crown Court took six hours and 38 minutes to find him guilty by a unanimous verdict.

Ms Thacker had been on a ? night out with friends in Man-1. chester city centre nn 10 August' last year before Bermingham picked her up in his car in the city's Canal Street.

Her naked and charred body was found the next day behind the George & Dragon pub in-Ardwick, Manchester:

Ms Thacker, of Chase Terrace, Cannock, Staffordshire. had recently graduated from the University of Salford and was celebrating a friend's 21st birthday on the night of her murder.

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Three charged over baseball-bat attack

attacked nutside his disabled

Three people were charged two men, aged 38 and 18, and Holmes, 27, who suffered serimurder of a man who was appear before Wolverhampton magistrates this morning.

The three are accused of at-West Midlands Police said tempting to murder Lee

yesterday with the attempted a 17-year-old youth were due to nus head injuries nutside his father's home in Low Hill. Wniverhampton, when he wass beaten over the head with a -

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the last magnifest study the topon does attioned to middle a Legislation should be introduced to outlaw and education 'islamophobia', the Runnymede Trust argued yesterday. But Clare Gamer says that the Government has no Lineral NATHUR plans to change the law to protect Muslims from and of plants religious discrimination. one in eight one

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, yesterday rejected the key recommendation of the Commissioo on British Muslims.

The first major study into "Islamophobia" and the position of the British Muslim community concluded that a new legal term such as "religious and racial violence" is urgently needed in order to protect Muslims from physical violence and harassment.

Given that people are often attacked because of their dress or association with a place of worship, the term "racial violence" is no longer adequate, the Ronnymede Trust said.

Speaking at the launch of the report "Islamophobia: A challeoge for us all" at Westminster yesterday, Mr Straw, whose Blackburn constituency includes 20,000 Muslims, said: "I recognise that there is an important difference between religious and racial identity. I know that some people feel that race legislation is not the answer to the particular problems of the Muslim community. But religious legislation may not be the answer either."

He admitted that the question of harassment of Muslims was a "difficult and sensitive" issue, but added that he had no plans to legislate. "Given the complexity of the matter and our pressures in our parlia-) mentary programme, we don't have immediate plans to legislate on this," he said.

The commission maintained that there were four areas in English law which were oot yet developed sufficiently to meet the needs of British Muslims:

discrimination in employment and the provision of services, vililication and blusphemy, incitement to hatred, and violence,

Meanwhile, before new legislation reaches the statute book, the commission recommended that, when sentencing offenders for crimes of violence or harassment, courts should formally treat evidence of religious hatred as an aggravating factor.

The Home Office should give a clear lead on the monitoring of racial and religious violence and police forces should note acts which have a specifically religious dimension.

According to the commission, there is widespread anecdotal evidence in Muslim communities that an individual Muslim is more likely to be a victim of racist violence when he or she is wearing Islamic dress or symbols.

This applies to white Muslims - a white woman wearing the hijab, for example - as well as to South Asians. There is also a widespread perception that Muslims are particularly likely to be attacked when going to or from their local mosque, and that a peak time for racist attacks is the month of Ramadan.

Another recommendation made by the commission. whose committee was multiethnic and multi-religious, related to the educational system.

It suggested a review of English language teaching, the development of formal policies and guidance on meeting the pastoral, religious and cultural needs of Muslim pupils in mainstream schools, and the introduction of state funding in Muslim schools.

The commission was set up by the Runnymede Trust, an independent think-tank, in 1996. It set out to counter Islamophobic assumptions that Islam is a single, monolithic system, and draw attention to the particular daogers which Islamophobia creates or exacerbates for Muslim communities - and therefore the well-being of society as a whole.

How Pakistani voters help shape Cook's policy

The issue of Islamic empowerment in Britain has wide-ranging ramifications. Kim Sengupta examines how Labour's concern over Muslim votes will increasingly influence the political agenda both at home and abroad.

One could hardly have had a more potent example of the power of the Muslim vote: the Queen, the Foreign Secretary, and the Prime Minister of the most populous country in the Commonwealth as the cast of a hage diplomatic row.

The seeds of the problems which bedevilled the royal tour of India lay 5,000 miles away in the marginal constituencies of the United Kingdom.

To put in its simplest form, Robin Cook's reported offer to mediate in the Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan would have pleased Pakistanis, and a large section of the British Muslim electorate. The Pakistanis want to internationalise the issue, the Indians want to keep it hilateral.

There may well, of course, be moral reasons why the Government wants to get involved in Kashmir. There is certainly a very practical reason for paying lip service to doing so.

Historically, Labour has claimed around 90 per cent of of the Asian vote. But it can no longer take that for granted,

and the proportion has declined over the last decade.

The Pakistani electorate is concentrated mostly in the Midlands and the North-west where there were a large cluster of marginal seats before the election. Mr Cook should know the psephological details of this well. Two years ago, as shadow foreign secretary, he made a speech in Broot, north London, implying support for the Indian position on Kashmir. He was warned that io at least 30 marginal seats, the Pakistani vote could tip the balance against Labour.

MPs io constituencies with large Muslim populations have championed causes like Kashmiri independence. However, this has not saved them all from falling victim to Muslim activists flexing their muscle.

At Bradford West, Max Madden had assiduosly cultivated the Muslim vote, and spoken repeatedly about Kashmin independence in the Commons. But this did not prevent his deselection before the election. Subsequent infighting between Muslim factions allowed a Sikh, Marsha Singh, to become the candidate, and win the seat.

Muslim activists are determined to use their electoral power to influence Labour policies. Dr Ghayasuddin Siddiqui, leader of Britain's Muslim Parliament, stated: "The problem is not that British Muslims are trying to influence the political process too much; it is they are doing nothing like

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Straw rejects call for law to protect British Muslims



wearing her hijab, the main theme of an exhibition on 'The Veil in Islam' at the St Mungo Museum in Glasgov Photograph: Colin

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Nintendo opens games price war

A computer game price war follow suit just three weeks latbroke out yesterday as Nintener after sales of its new console do slashed the price of its game proved disappointing. console in response to a new giveaway by arch-rival PlayStatioo. It marks the latest shot in the bruising battle for customers in the run-up to Christmas.

From tomorrow the price of the Nintendo 64 games console will fall from £149.99 to £99.99. It comes less than a week after Sony launched the PlayStation Value Pack. Customers paying £129.99 for a PlayStation now get a memory card and a second controller for an extra say a week is a long time in polplayer, worth about £33.

The aggressive price cut is the latest in an increasingly bitter conflict between Nintendn and Snny in the United Kingdom which goes back to 1995, when the PlayStation was launched. Since then Sony has captured more than 50 per cent of the computer games market,

selling 1.4 million consoles. Last March saw the launch nf the new Nintendo 64, billed as the most powerful games console nn earth. However, just 24 hours before it was duc tn hit the shelves, Sony siashed the price of the PlayStation by £100. Nintendo was forced to

The latest price cut, however, signals that Nintendo is determined to wrestle the initiative from Sony. Nintendo has also stepped up the pressure on PiayStation by reducing the price of flagship games such as Super Mario by £10 to £49.99.

A Nintendo spokesman said: "We want to dominate the market. PiayStation will be looking behind their backs now. Anything could happen cext. They itics, but that is nothing compared to this industry."

A PlayStatioo spokesman said: "PlayStation has established itself as market leader in every country around the world. Because we have sold over 20 million units we can now afford to bring PlayStation to more people. We fully expect to dominate this Christmas as we have done every Christmas since launch."

However, Nintendn and PlayStatioo will still have to compete with the Teletubbies and Spice Girl dolls which are expected to be the most sought after toys this Christmas.

- Andrew Yates



Galliano: First time British Designer of the Year title has been shared

Fashion duo's winning act

John Galliano and Alexander McQueen were last night jointly awarded the British Designer of the Year title. It is the first time it has been shared but the decision, by the British Fashion Council, with votes from industry, has been well-received. It is accepted that the two contrasting designers have raised the profile of British fashion beyond all expectations.

Second in importance to their award is the one for New Generation, and 28-year-old Antonio Berardi beat the rest of the young guns. He has quickly become a main London attraction for his attention to beautiful detail and for the pure sexiness of his clothes.

Other awards went to Jigsaw for best retailer, Pearce Finnda for glamour, milliner Philip Treacy for accessories, John Smedley for classic design and Nicole Farhi for contemporary collections. A new award for menswear design went to Paul Smith. Bruce Oldfield presented a special tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales, honouring her contribution to British fashion.

Melanie Rickey Photographs: Ben Elwes

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Immigration chiefs fear influx of more gypsy 'refugees'

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Immigration officials fear a "copycat" influx of gypsies from across Central and Eastern Europe after the arrival of hundreds of Czech and Slovak asylum-seekers in Britain. Politicians from Conservative and Labour-controlled councils in Kent will meet the Home Office minister, Michael O'Brien, this afternoon to discuss the financial impact of accommodating the increasing number of arrivals at Dover and call for the introduction of visas.

Alexander Bruce-Lockhart, Tory leader of Kent Council County, who is part of the delegation which will lobby for more money to deal with the cost of accommodating the families and educating the children, said a senior immigration official told him that the problems could worsen because of television coverage overseas about the arrivals which, according to council officials,

painted Kent as "the land of milk and honey". Mr Bruce-Lockhart said: "[The immigration official] said that in Poland they are screening film of these people arriving here. He said it's possible it might encourage others from Poland to join the main exodus."

Victim locked up with abuser

A young offender who had been abused as a child was locked up on the same prison wing as his attacker, according to a report published today. The man, who could have been as young as 15, was being kept in a unit for vulnerable prisoners. "Fortunately the abuser did not recognise his victim, "said Sir David Ramsbotham, Chief Inspector of Prison, in his study of Cardiff jail, which highlights the dangers of putting young offenders alongside adult immates.

Sir David called for prison staff to be given more information about inmates, such as probation, social service, medical, edncation and police reports, to ensure victims did not have to face their assailants. He said that overcrowding was forcing the authorities to house young affenders aged from 15 to 21 with adults on the same landing. However, Richard Tilt, director-general of the Prisoo Service, questinoed the accuracy of the comment and said if the inspectorate had evidence of the allegation it should be given to the service.

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DAILY POEM

The Twa Corbies

As I was walking all alane I heard two corbies making a mane; The tane unto the t'other say, Where sall we gang and dine to-day?"

" In behint yon auld fail dyke, I wot there lies a new-slain Knight; And naebody kens that he lies there, But his hawk, his hound, and lady fair.

"His hound is to the hunting gane, His hawk to fetch the wild-fowl hame, His lady's ta'en another mate, So we may make our dinner sweet.

"Ye'll sit on his white hause-bane. And I'll pick out his bonny blue een: Wi' ae lock o' his gowden hair We'll theek our nest when it grows bare. "Mony a one for him makes mane,

But nane sail ken where he is gane;

O'er his white banes, when they are bare, The wind sall blaw for evermair." This week's poems come from Poets on Poets, a 400-page

stooe's (£9.95). Almost 100 modern poets present work from poets of the past. Matthew Sweeocy introduces his selection of Border Ballads; The Twa Corbies was first collected in Walter Scott's Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border in 1802. "Corbies" are crows; a "fail dyke" a turf wall; a "hause-

bane" a neck-bone; "theek" means line.

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Royal retreat in search of new way forward

The Queen has ambitious and rcontroversial plans for her Balmoral estate. where she is wrestling with the same environmental problems besetting other owners of great tracts of Scottish highland. Nicholas Schoon was given

a guided tour.

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EPENDENT

MGM Westerns

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Arizona

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The Queen has no qualms about charging her subjects more to visit Balmoral. Nor is she reluctant to ask the Government - and therefore taxpayers - to help finance conservation activities on her 55,000-acre estate, where the public are fairly free to roam.

She is seeking about £250,000 in grants to plant nearly 600 acres of new forest, greatly expanding the existing Scots pine woodlands. "If grants are available we'll go for them." said Peter Ord, the estate manager. "We couldn't afford to be doing it without them." He feels the fact the Queen now pays income tax makes such applications less awkward.

The point of these new woodlands is not to provide timber, but to create wildlife habitat and change the scenery. They will make the estate more like the untamed wilderness it was several thousand years ago, before most of its forest

It is a visionary plan, for which approval from the Government's Forestry Authority is awaited. With such a barsb climate and poor soil, the trees will not mature until Prince William is past the usual retirement age. It may also be controversial, because several miles of fencing will be put up - starting next summer - to stop red deer eating and killing the young trees. These fences are known to kill the capercaille, a

large, rare bird of highland moral will not be acting alone. forests with a tendency to fly into them at high speed.

Some conservation groups say trees can be grown in the Highlands without fences and without being munched to death, provided the deer are culled. They would once have been the prey of wolves and culling would maintain a more natural ecological balance.

But the Royal Family enjoys its stalking and insists Balmoral will remain primarily a sporting estate. The aim is to keep a relatively high deer population, 2,500 or more. which would allow 200 stags to he shot each year. Fences are essential to protect young forests and allow existing woodland to regenerate.

The Royal Family is also courting controversy as it grapples with the rising tide of walkers enjoying - but also threatening - the area's sombre beauty. Each year, over 100,000 people drive up a dead-end road to the Spittal of Muick, on Balmoral's southern edge. For much of the year, the 60-space car park overflows on to the narrow road, churning up verges. Many footpaths across the estate and up its 3,791ft peak, Lochnagar, are badly eroded by walkers, About £100,000 a year is now spent on paying rangers and on renairing footpaths, but unly £30,000 comes from the Queen; the

bulk is from government grants. Along with other landowners, authorities and consultants, Balmoral is promoting the creation of an Upper Decside Public Access Trust, which will attempt to find the best ways of allowing as many as possible to enjoy the area without damaging it. One option is to introduce a car parking charge of £3-£5. Another is to close the road at peak times and run a shuttle bus service.

Any changes will be with the agreement of the authorities

and other landowners and after extensive consultation, Bal-

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Entry charges at Balmoral will be raised when the house and gardens are open from May to July next summer. Only the hallroom in the castle is opened, and there are no plans to change that. Nor will the public be allowed in dur-

al Family is in residence. But while Balmoral is far from being exploited to the full as a tourist moneyspinner, visitor charges are still the estate's higgest earner. Timber sales come in second, followed by sales of venison. Mr Ord says Balmoral, with 50 full-time staff, loses money overall, and

he is looking for new income. Balmoral's nine-hole golf course is available for limited corporate hospitality, while some of the deer stalking is on offer at £275 a stag.



Castie home: The Queen is planning 600 acres of new forest at Balmoral to encourage wildlife and restore the landscape of a bygone age Photograph: Chris Bacon



Bishops force a retreat over **church** schools

Ministers are preparing to climb down over proposals in the **Education White Paper which** affect church schools. The move came as Church of England bishops threatened to vote against parts of the education Bill in the House of Lords unless the Government thinks again. judith Judd, Education Editor. looks at the row.

More than 50 years after the churches secured their present partnership with the state in education through the 1944 Education Act, their influence remains powerful. The hishops yesterday took the unusual step of calling a press conference 10 publicise their concern about the White Paper. They did so, they said, because ministers were threatening the future of de-nominational schools "by muddle rather than malevolence."

And they feared the Bill to be introduced in Parliament next month could unravel arrangements which have helped to ensure the distinctive ethos and popularity of 6,500 church schools. Although only the Church of England bishops sit in the Lords, the Roman Catholic and Methodist churches are also concerned about the plans. The Prime Minister, who sends his children to a grant-maintained Roman to keep their church religious education Catholic school, is likely to be particularly sensitive to their criticism.

The Bishop of Ripon, the Rt Rev David Young, who chairs the board of education of the Church of England's general synod, said: "The mood of the hishops is that if we are not satisfied we would want to make that clear. We would be looking for amendments as the Bill went through to Parliament," His message for Mr Blair was: "These schools are excellent and sought-after and we wish that position to he maintained."

Within hours, Stephen Byers, the school-standards minister, promised that the Government would not be introducing any measures which would weaken or diminish church schools. Details of the concessions are expected to emerge at a meeting with church representatives on

Monday. The bishops' concern centres on the section of the White Paper which proposes three categories of schools, foundation, community or aided.

This assumes most voluntary-aided church schools would become aided, grantmaintained schools would become fourdation and local authority schools would become community.

Ministers are understood to be ready to give way over the plan that the majority enjoyed by church governors in aided schools would be reduced from two or three to one to make way for more parent governors. Churches have suggested one of the church governors might be a parent.

The Government is also believed to be reparing a concession over its proposal that 2,700 voluntary controlled schools should become foundation schools, the category created for the former grant-maintained schools. Controlled schools are church foundations and the church owns the buildings but they are maintained by the local authority, unlike voluntary-aided schools, which manage their own buildings and contribute 15 per cent towards the

The bishops fear controlled schools, many of which have voted against grantmaintained status, will opt for community status rather than foundation status and break their links with the church. They are also worried by the proposal that voluntary controlled schools would not be able syllabuses and would have to use one approved by the local authority.

Ministers are, however, unlikely to give way to church concerns about losing control over admissions. At present, voluntary-aided schools decide their own admissions policy in consultation with the local authority. The White Paper says an independent adjudicator will decide disputes between the school and the authority. Geoffrey Duncan, secretary of the board of education, said he was sure the Government did not intend to hreak its manifesto commitment to maintaining church schools. "But if the church's status is reduced, if its power over admissions is reduced, if we have fewer church-appointed governors, you can infer that that promise is not being entirely kept."

in the Eye: Education +



Jason, a pupil at a learning-support centre, with teacher Louise Smith at Saffron Walden County High School, Essex

Photograph: Brian Harris

Hostage letter n the price freedon

Labour plan to resolve special needs dilemma

More of the 1.4 million children with special needs should be in mainstream schools, the Government thinks. Its Green Paper tries to end the debate about where they should be taught, says judith judd, Education Editor.

Almost one in five pupils has special educational needs and many could flourish independently if they were given the right support, David Blunkett, Secretary of

State for Education, said. Teachers reminded the Government that such children may be very difficult

ordinary schools, Special schools would not disappear but would be used for fewer children for shorter periods, Mr Blunkett said. Their expertise would be used to support pupils in mainstream schools.

"What we cannot have are children sent to special schools and presumed to be there for the rest of their lives," added Mr Blunkett, who was educated at a residential special school for the blind.

The number of children in special schools is falling sharply. Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said the Government must be in Cloud-cuckoo-land if it believed it could raise standards and return the most disruptive children to mainto teach and that more funding would be stream classrooms. Mr Blunkett said only

required if they were to be educated in a tiny proportion of special-needs children had emotional and behavioural disorders. There was no question of children remaining in the classroom if they were disrupting others' lives.

Yesterday's document was concerned with all types of special needs, which include the blind, the deaf and the dyslexic. One of its most controversial proposals is that the 3 per cent of children with "statements" of need which entitle their schools to extra cash should be reduced to 2 per cent.

Ministers believe the system of statementing is bureaucratic and wasteful and that the money would be better spent helping children earlier in their school careers. The number of children with statements has risen from 153,000 to 233,000 since 1991 and there are 2,000 cases be-

fore tribunals as parents challenge decisions by local education authorities about how their children's needs should be met.

About one-seventh of local authorities' budget - £2.5hn - is spent on special needs. Ministers say they want value for money, not cost-cutting. The paper proposes that all parents of special-needs children would be supported by independent advisers who would, if necessary, negotiate with schools on their behalf.

Estelle Morris, the schools minister, said: "The right to a statement will remain. But some parents are pushing for a statement as a way of getting resources for their children they don't feel they can get any other way. It is not right for these children to have to wait the 18 months that this process can take."

Leading article, page 22



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The people have touted me very with we are very Confortable, will find and the people are complises. The proper here, some 12 families - have a number of gricosenes with government and want to discuss the And in weather from the or sending what supply, would chart



Hostage's letter names the price of freedom



Bran Harre

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Thompson to give such precise details of where he is shows they are confident the government will make no attempt to free him by an armed assault. Mr Thompson, who has ex-

Henry Thompson, the British aid worker kidnapped by Yemeni tribesmen (pictured above) has been allowed explaining how he was captured. Patrick Cockburn analyses the letter obtained by The Independent, sent from the tribal stronghold south of the city of Marib where Mr Thompson is being held.

It is a relaxed letter, sent by Henry Thompson, a 38-year-old British aid worker, four days after he and his driver, Mohammed Abdul-Rahman, were kidnapped just north of the town of Mabar, 45 miles south of the capital Sana'a. It is addressed to "Yamamoto-San", a diplomat at the Japanese embassy who is io charge of Japao's aid to Yemen. Mr Thompson had been working for the Japan International Co-operation Agency.

But in fact the letter was seot, through the kidnappers, to the Yemeni Interior Ministry.

which handles most security

SAUDI ARABIA

matters in Yemen. The words the tribes in the north and east in Arabic across the top of the page simply say a copy of the document has been kept.

According to his letter, Mr Thompson was captured four days earlier than originally assumed by the Yemeni government and the British embassy. He explains how he and Mohammed Abdul-Rahman were "abducted at 12.10 on 12 Sunday on the road just north of Mabar". This is on the main road between Sana'a and Taiz, the country's second biggest city. He confirms he is held at "Bani Dabyan", south-west of the city of Marib, The fact the kidnappers allowed Mr

perience in aid work, chiefly in Africa, is worried he will not be able to complete his project for the aid agency and wants "to stay in Yemen to complete most of my work before leaving". He says he is being treated well, which is in keeping with the experience of other kidnap victims in Yemen, and "we are very comfortable, well fed and the people are courteous".

All this is probably true, although the letter will have been seen by the kidnappers. Their purpose in passing it oo to the Interior Ministry - presumably through tribal iotermediaries - is to state their demands. Mr Thompson says there are 17 families where he is kept - in the territory of the Bani Dabyan (usually spelt Bani Zabyan in English) and they want the government to discuss the provision of better social services such as "watersupply, road, clinic, etc". He asks for the Interior Ministry to be contacted "to help in negotiating my release". "Negotiating" is the only word underlined in the whole letter.

The oegotiations are being overseeo by Naji al-Soufi, the governor of Sana'a, who comes from the district where Mr Thompsoo is being held. A tribal sheikh who saw Mr Thompson on Mooday said he was well. Yemeni officials do not believe social grievances are the Bani Zabyan's sole motive for the kidnapping. They say the government has usually got people released by paying mon-

ey and making gifts. such as four-wheeldrive cars. In Mr Thompson's case, however, there are ucconfirmed reports that the kidnappers want a letter of guarantee saying their demand for a road water supply and a clinic will be met. In private, the

government believes the rash of kidnappings in Yemen since 1990 is inspired by Saudi Arahia, which has traditionally kept

protesting Tribesmen against a rise in the price of diesel this week clashed with the army just south of where Mr Thompson was kidnapped. Unconfirmed reports say two tribesmen and one soldier were

■ Sana'a (AP) - Yemeni tribesmen holding Mr Thompson hostage have refused to negotiate with the government and are demanding a ransom, security officials said yesterday. The size of the ransom was not

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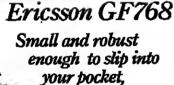
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Bombed City church cleared for millennium peace centre

Clearance work has begun on St Ethelhurga's, a medieval church in the City of London bombed four years ago by the IRA, so it can be converted into a centre for peace and reconciliation.

With agreement from the Corporation of London and English Heritage. workmen vesterday started to remove the rubble and broken masonry caused by

is pleased with the progress of the £4m project and intends to get planning permission by the end of the year so it is ready in time for the millennium.

Purcell Miller Tritton, a firm of architects known for conservation work on Canterbury and Winchester Cathedrals,

the Bishopsgate bomh The Bishop of Will restore the church using materials London, the Rt Rev Richard Chartres, salvaged from the bombing.

salvaged from the bombing. St Ethelburga's, built in 1390, survived the Great Fire of London and the Blitz, but was damaged by an IRA bomb at the Baltic Exchange in 1992. It was partly destroyed by a second IRA bomh in Bish-

opsgate the following year. - Gare Garner

Council gives way in elderly-care row

against the charity Help the Aged, a local authority yesterday backed down and agreed to pay care-home bills for the elderly rather than try to fight its case in the House of Lords.

The plight of two Merseyside pensioners first alerted staff at Help the Aged to the fact that Sefton Council was not following all the Government social-security regulations on providing care for the elderly.

The rules, made in November 1995, outline a sliding scale in which a council should provide financial help for residents needing care in a home if they have savings of less than £16,000 - and meet the whole bill for those with savings of less than £10,000.

Yet, despite a ruling by the Court of Appeal that they should pay the hills, Sefton Council pleaded poverty and refused to make any provision for the nursing fees of those who had made their own private care arrangements until their savings had dwindled to less than £1,500.

But at a meeting on Tuesday the social-services committee agreed to drop its plan to ap-

After a lengthy legal battle peal to the House of Lords and paid for nursing and residential home care would be repaid with cancer rial lack voluntes

Alan Lewis, assistant director for older people and hos-pitals, said: "This decision only involves those people who make their own arrangements for care and then come to us for help when their assets had run out. Everyone else has always: been treated in accordance. with the government rules.

"But now years of financial stringency have paid off and after reviewing our financial circumstances we found that we are now able to meet the provisions affecting this particular group of people.

The move, which is believed to affect around 70 pensioners in Merseyside, was welcomed

by charities. Alyson Rose, of Help the Aged, said: "We are absolutely delighted this case has finally ended after such a long hattle on behalf of older people in and out of the courts. It means that those people in Merseyside can stop worrying about having no money."

Spurs chairman's winning formula

Alan Sugar returned to his old school yesterday to persuade its students that they, too, might have the spark to set up their

But the businessman and Tottenham Hotspur chairman - who has been recruited by the Treasury to spread the message to hudding young entrepreneurs in the nadoo's schools warned that success requires hard work, focus and determination".

He was joined at Hackney Community College, formerly Brooke House, in east London, by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, for the start of an 11-city "you can do it too" tour. Mr Sugar said: "I started out

in business in Hackney as a kid youngsters of Hackney can do here today.

entrepreneurship into them oot to lecture them, but actually show them that business can

be fun and that the rewards of hard work and common sense can be even more fun."

In 1960, Mr Sugar's school report said: "Alan can do hetter than this. He has ability, but seems afraid to use it."

But he had inherited a hard-work ethic from his father, a tailor, and soon began putting it to profitable use. As a child he collected soft drinks bottles for the refunds.

After school, he set up the Amstrad computer business which was responsible for the . huge growth in personal computers in Britain in the 1980s.

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's Today programme, Mr Sugar said that you could not manufacture entrepreneurs. "You cannot make someone into an and earned a living there as a cutrepreneur, just like you can't kid, doing things that the make someone a pop singer or

"It has to be in-built in you, "I want to burn the spirit of it's a kind of a nose for things, a smell for things, and then an instinct to do it and a focus." - Lauise Jury



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Boy who died in dentist's chair had syndrome

A boy of 14 who died during a visit to the dentist had been suffering from a serious medical condition.

Bradley Miller failed to regain consciousness after an anaesthetic at a dental surgery in Barnsley, South Yorkshire because he had a "most unusual syndrome", a policewoman said but would not give details to protect the privacy of the boy's family. "This is not a healthy 14-year-old boy who went to the den-

tist and died. He had been poorly for some time. We do not know ourselves what the syndrome was," she said. "There is no criminal investigation. This was a tragedy. He

had the best possible care and at this stage it looks like it is simply a tragedy which is down to his condition." Bradley, of Darton, Barnsley, died on Tuesday while he was

still under anaesthetic. He had been referred to the surgery by his orthodontist and a consultant anaesthetist from the local hospital was present to assist.

When the teenager failed to regain consciousness both tried to revive him unsuccessfully. An initial post-mortem failed to establish the exact cause of death and further tests are being carried out. A spokeswoman for the surgery, said: "We have every sympathy with Bradley's parents."

The family were too upset to comment. — Michael Streeter

Child killed in Tube accident

A young hoy died under a said to be "distraught". How-

father, watched in borror as the driver, who had been offered

counselling.

ter of urgency."

Tube train when a toggle on his

anorak caught in the doors

and dragged him along a

Hundreds of passengers, in-

cluding the youngster's foster

nine-year-old was pulled under

the train at Holborn station in

The youngster, from Tot-

tenham, north London, died instantly on the Picadilly line

northbound platform. It is not

clear whether he had been try-

ing to board the train although

his foster father did not get on.

are expected to emerge when

British Transport Police inter-

view the foster father who was

More details of the tragedy

central London yesterday.

crowded platform.

ever, the BTP already felt able

to say there seemed to be no

suspicious circumstances and

the incident was a "tragic acci-

dent". Officers had interviewed

many witnesses, including the

But RMT general secretary

Jimmy Knapp said: "This trag-

ic accident emphasises the ne-

cessity for rail safety not to be

viewed purely in cash terms and

that guards should be intro-

duced on all services as a mat-

and the Picadilly line suspend-

ed between Hyde Park Corner

and King's Cross following the

Holborn station was closed

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TUESDAY 28

Cancer drug trial lacking volunteers

Women at a high risk of breast cancer were urged yesterday to volunteer for a clinical trizi which could provide a breakthrough in preventing the disease. Scientists hope the anticancer drug tamoxifen could reduce cases by 50 per cent in women at high risk. But if there are not enough volunteers the trial may collapse says Glenda Cooper, Social Affairs Correspondent.

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P TYRES

Scientists said yesterday that they hoped cases of breast cancer in women with a strong family history of contracting the disease could be reduced by up tu a half if an anti-cancer drug proves effective in preventing the disease.

"This is probably the most important question in breast cancer today - can we prevent it as well as trying to treat it? It could be the beginning of something very, very big," said Dr Jack Cuzick, the study's scicotific director.

But he warned that Britain's only clinical trial investigating tamoxifen could fail unless more women come forward tu take part. Britain is playing a key role in the International Breast Cancer Intervention Study, which has a target of 7,000 voluoteers world-wide. The British arm, however, has only recruited 2,200 womeo against the target of 5,000.

"We are having problems in recruitment because many digible groups of womeo doo't even know about the trial," said Dr Cuzick. "Women who are well may also be reluctant to go into a trial which involves taking a drug as a preventive measure. But the sludy is vitally important because tamoxifen may offer the only preventive option for women at a high familv risk of breast cancer – other than a double mastectomy."

Half the women on the trial receive the anti-cancer drug while the rest are given a placebo. Each woman has a check-up every six months and a mammogram every 12-18 months.

Tamorifen, which was first introduced in 1969, is already the leading drug treatment for breast cancer and is taken by more than a million women around the world. At present, one in 12 women in the United Kingdom will develop breast cancer at some point in their lives and 14,000 women die of the disease every year.

Studies show that giving women the drug for more than two years after a breast cancer operation saves nearly 9 per cent extra lives and cuts women's chances of developing new tumours in their other hreasts by more than 40 per cent. It also improves bone strength in post-menopausal women, helps to prevent osteoporosis and reduce blood fats which helps to prevent heart disease.

Side-effects include hot flushes and a small risk of cancer of the womb lining; doctors believe that the usual risk of the disease rises from 3 per 10.000 post-menopausal women each year to 6-9 per 10,000 per year.

"This increased risk can understandably be worrying for women - but it is important to put it in context," said Professor Tony Howell, a Cancer Research Campaign consultant on the trial. "For women on the trial the chance of them developing cancer of the womh lining is far less than their chance Of developing breast cancer. Cancer of the womb lining is also relatively easy to cure.

Dr Cuzick warned that failure of the British contribution could threaten the whole project, "We need enough numbers to come up with clear answers."

Linda Hinds, 39, whu joined the trial three years agu, said her mother, grandmother and aunt all died from breast caocer when they were young. "I was 18 when my mother died," she said. "To see someone die of breast cancer is unbelievable. lt's absolutely horrible. We said to the hospital before she died 'can't you just do something - to put her and her family out of their misery?" And she had watched her own mother

Any woman aged 35 to 70 who is at high family risk of breast cancer and wants more details about the trial can call 0171 269 3151.



Chris Warne, whose death this week is thought to be due to v-CJD Photograph: Page One

Fitness fanatic dies as CJD toll rises

A 36-year-old fitness fanatic who died this week is reckoned to be the 21st to die in Britain of a fatal illness caused by BSE, or mad cow disease, in the past three

The death of Chris Warne, from Riplev in Derbyshire, of "new variant" Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (v-CJD) came amid warnings that any epidemic of the disease could bring a carc crisis in 20 years. The CJD Support Network, run by families who have lost relatives to the illness, said that if the number of cases of the brain disease, caused by eating BSEinfected food, rose dramatically over the next two decades, then health and social services would not be able to cope.

Mr Warne was a computer systems analyst and keen on sports. His parents insisted that he had never worked with animals. He was only diagnosed as having v-CJD, which causes depression and increasing lack of co-ordination, followed by coma and death, in August. Doctors at Derbyshire Royal Infirmary were vesterday awaiting the results of a post mortem, which is necessary to confirm any diagnosis of v-CJD.

A grawing weight of scientific data has shown that v-CJD, which was only identified clinically in 1996, is caused by the same disease agent that causes BSE in cattle. More than 160,000 BSE cases have

been confirmed in British cattle since 1985, but hundreds of thousands more animals infected with the disease would have entered the food chain.

Scientists are still unsure how infective BSE is to humans, and cannot rule out the possibility that many thousands of people may be affected in the next 20 years, as the disease could take decades

to incuhate before symptoms show. The CJD Support Network has called on the Government to develop a national strategy to enable social services and

health teams in cope. Gillian Turner, uf the Network, told Community Care magazine: "The Government must prepare health and social workers to go into action to help clients who develop all forms of CID. This preparation must include a full range of dementia services in every district, backed by adequate resources."

Terry Philpot, editur of Community Can, said: "The Government needs to look at this situation very carefully. An explosion of CJD cases may have enormous implications for social services and resources. The Department of Health needs to develop cross-agency policies between health and social services to ensure proper care for people with this deadly disease."

--- Charles Arthur, Science Editor

SOMETIMES IT'S EASIER TO TALK TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE.



THE INDEPENDENT

IN SPAIN BULLS ARE SET ALIGHT AT VILLAGE FIESTAS.

CRUELTY OR **CULTURE?**

DECIDE FOR YOURSELF. **READ OUR** SPECIAL REPORT ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



When you have a problem, it's the most natural thing in the world to want to talk it through with someone.

Sometimes, though, this creates another problem: who's the best person to confide in?

An obvious choice would be a close friend. But let's face it, we don't always choose our friends for their amazing powers of tact, diplomacy and discretion. Tell one person, and you may end up telling the world.

You may be lucky enough to be able to talk to someone in your family. Then again, you may be one of the large number of people who find talking to your nearest and dearest agonisingly embarrassing.

A girlfriend or boyfriend? If you can, great. But sometimes we don't want to expose our weaknesses to those who fancy us.

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Call now. You'll find we're remarkably easy

The Samaritans We'll go through it with you.

Why Kent is all abroad for France

Residents of Kent - the Garden of England -- see their futures in a select economic zone called Region Transmanche. Michael Streeter examines a population of 15 million. very European view of regionalism.

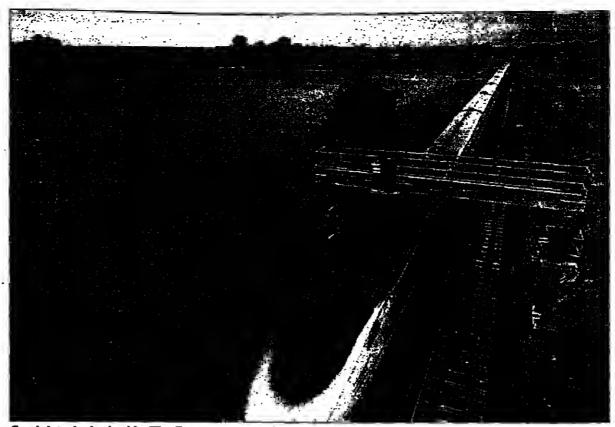
No one demonstrates on the streets of Guildford or Folkestoce to represent the oeglected voice of the South-east. The passion which demands local autonomy for regions such as Yorkshire and the West Country barely registers in the South-

An area which, based on bouodaries, stretches down

ty of Colin Cowdrey, fruit orchards and the Darling Buds of May, has embraced its oear neighbours across the water and is part of a European Union region which boasts a The area, which takes in

Kent, the French district of Nord-Pas de Calais and all three regions of Belgium, is known as Region Transmanche and has an increasingly powerful voice when it comes to obtaining EU mooey from Brussels. Kent's membership means it can share in grants for inter-regional projects in a programme known as Interreg. It has received around £60m in extra funding through its links.

The Euroregion builds on government administrative existing connections between the areas through ferries, the from Oxfordshire, skirts around Channel Tunnel and Trans-London, and ends up in the far manche - a link between Kent reaches of Kent, taking in a and Nord-Pas de Calais. Busipopulation of nearly 8 million, nesses on both sides of the wahas virtually no sense of iden- ter are on a joint Internet tity, no roots, oo separate tra- databank, to allow easy coditioo. Yet regionalism is operation between firms. Comflourishing in the far south-east muting to work, both ways, becorner of England, Kent, countween England and France is



Semi-detached suburbia: The Eurostar crosses Kent en route to Paris Photographs: Peter Macdiarmid .

becoming increasingly common. Schoolchildren are crossing the Channel for their French lessons, householders do their weekly shopping in Gallic supermarkets and some British friends now gather for an end of week get-together

in France rather than their Leaders of the five local anthorities involved meet formally twice a year, and more

often at informal gatherings. The Kent County Council leader Alexander Bruce-Lockhart says: "Kent is very happy to be seen as a European county. Nobody feels that they are part of a South-east region. There is no regional identity, no popular demand."

He speaks as leader of the ruling Conservative group but considers the developing links with European neighbours to

be based on practicalities rather than ideology. "It's all about goography," he says. "For example I can get a train from my local station at Ashford and be in Lille slightly quicker than I can get to London."

The future of the proposed South East Regional Development Board, part of the Government's devolution plans which could lead to assemblies, excites little real enthu-

siasm in Kent Mr Bruce-Lockhart believes it could have a useful if limited role but wor-

ries it will take from local

democracy without adding any

new accountability.

Labour's Reg Hansell, county councillor for Dover, hopes it will be helpful, but says that existing structures bave dooe relatively little for Kent. "We have gained far more from the European side."

CROSS-CHANNEL COMMUTER



Julian Lucas's lifestyle exemplifies the growing links between Kent and the Continent. Each day he com-Deal across the Channel to Paris," said Mr Lucas. "It mutes from his home near Calais, where he runs a French and English-owned advertising agency called Transmanche Publicité.

"On a good day, if all goes well, I can do the trip in an hour," says Mr Lucas. "Sometimes I go by hovercraft, sometimes I go by train, it depends on the time of year and the weather."

The direction of commuting can cut different ways. There are those British people, like Mr Lucas, who commute to work in France, and others who have sold their British homes and house prices tend to he lower), hut still commute to Kent for their work. And

there are also French people who travel daily.

Brickies Pt

Blue-col

DAY HIGH INTE

"I met a Frenchman this morning who lives just outside Dover, and works in works both ways."

The price of commuting can vary a great deal according to the season, and special offers, but Mr Lucas says it can cost as little as £10 a day. "The good thing about the tunnel is that it is open 24 hours a day and is oot so affected by the weather."

Not everyooe is Kent is delighted with the closer cooperation. "There are some here who want the tunnel to be blocked up and for the barricades to be put up. But in the 15 years I have lived here things have improved," moved to France (where said Mr Lucas. I get the best of both worlds. I'm very

- Michael Streeter

Prescott's masterplan runs into the sand

A turf war among Labour ministers is threatening to delay plans to establish new development agencies for the English regions. David Walker says the creation of elected regional assemblies is receding into the distance.

Ambitious plans hatched by the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, to expand regional government in Eogland colleagues.

According to Whitehall, iotervention from Number 10 showed a "distinct lack of enthusiasm" for the creation of powerful regional development agencies, which were intended to be the precursors of new structures of government in Leeds, Newcastle upoo Tyne, Manchester and other regional centres.

Instead, a White Paper due oext mooth from the Departmeet of Environment, Transport and the Regions - though it may now be delayed - will propose weaker bodies with little or oo direct speeding responsibilities.

In cabinet committees, Mr

Richard Caborn is said to have unwilling to relinquish powers to the strong regional bodies originally eovisaged by Mr Prescott. The civil service-ruo government offices for the regions are to be strengthened rather than weakened and work alongside any new agencies; multi-millioo Single Regeneration Budget.

The White Paper's version of will be pale shadows of those have been whittled down after Secretary of State for Education fully fended off takeover of ed assemblies, preparatory Training and Enterprise Couocils and Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, has vetoed regionalisation of inward investment incentives and industrial assistance. The regional bodies will at most acquire planning powers, at present held by councils, and part of the job of assembliog and market-

ing land for development. One of the Government's headaches is aligning its plans for Londoo with the creation of development agencies in the regions. The North-east is going to be extremely unhappy with anythiog short of a new public sector agency with a budget of its own and specific responsi-

Prescott's junior minister hility for transport. Meanwhile, in London the private sector has been "rolled over" by ministers been lobbying strongly for a Londoo Development Agency that resembles the no-cost private sector Loodon First; Loodon is to have a separate public transport authority.

A possible compromise is the creation of ageocies with a majority of business cominees they will retain control of the but with some right to direct the spending of English Partnerships, the land assembly and regeneration quango, and limited regional development agencies responsibilities for transport co-ordinatioo. They would be proposed in pre-election serviced by the government of-Labour papers. David Blunkett, fices for the regions at minimal additional cost.

As for the creation of elect thinking is being deferred until a secood Labour term and even then, according to a source in Yorkshire and Humberside, ostensibly one of the keenest on regional development, "we are unlikely to see anything much bappen".

Mr Prescott is likely to be criticised within the Labour Party for putting the cart before the horse by creating new quangos before thinking about their democratic accountability. The White Paper is likely to recommend local authorities and business in the regions to come together in new oon-statutory "chambers", but commit no new public money to this.

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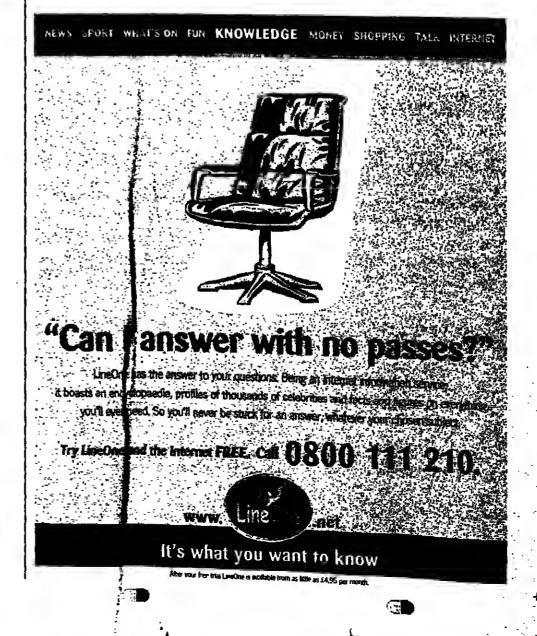
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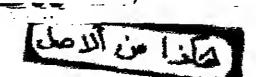
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Brickies pull in £700 a week as South-east goes on a construction spree



The London builder's moneybox his pay packet rather than his rear-end trouser cleavage - is full to overflowing. Barrie Clement, Labour Editor, on a resurgence in the construction industry

Some bricklayers in the South-East of England "won't get out of bed for less than £1,000 a week," according to rumours in the huilding world.

While that may well be an exaggeration, Sir Martin Laing, president and chairman of the construction group John Laing, estimates than brickies can earn up to £700 on some sites. And he has a vested interest in talking rates down.

Such wages constitute a dramatic recovery on the £250 a week earned by those bricklayers lucky enough to find a job during the recession in the early 1990s. Work was sporadic, scarce and, according to the employers' organisation, the Construction Confederation, around 500,000 people left the industry - many of them never to return.

Some building workers found themselves travelling from site to site "looking for a start" on the few projects that survived the ravages of the recession.

unemployed. It was certainly the worst of times for the industry, according to emplovers. It was far worse than the 1930s, because the recession was longer and

But as the economy improved, it prompted a boom in wages in London and the South-East. The scarcity of construction workers was made worse by the exodus from the industry.

The wages explosion has been particularly marked on large time-sensitive projects such as the Jubilee Underground line. The most sensitive of all are the Millennium projects - a point not lost on people working on the Dome at Greenwich.

But the Construction Confederation says the highest wages are earned on small housing projects where the developer insists work be turned out on time. While bricklayers have increasingly become the building-site aristocrats, other craftsmen are not far behind. Plasterers, painters, carpenters and joiners are all in short supply and can make £500 a week or more.

A confederation survey found 78 per cem of companies nationally reported difficulties hiring bricklayers and 68 per cent problems finding carpenters and joiners.

The balance of companies planning to take on more staff over the next three

For every job available, there were 10 months compared with those expecting staff cuts had widened from 17 per cent to 26 per cent since the second quarter of this year. Apart from pockets of frenetic activity in city centres, elsewhere in Britain the further you go from London, the lower the wages.

The nationally negotiated guaranteed minimum earnings of £156 for a 39-hour week for a labourer and £188.37 for a craft worker are regarded as something of a joke in most parts of the industry. On the Celtic fringes, however, the joke begins to pale. because pay is substantially lower.

Alan Hughes, of the Construction Confederation, says the £700 a week mentioned by Sir Martin is only rarely obtainable even in the South-East. He concedes, however, that wages vary widely according to location, labour availability and the profits sub-contractors believe they can make. Mr Hughes contends that the industry as a whole is not experiencing a skills crisis, but in the South-East the problem is growing worse by the month. He says the so-called boom in wages is patchy. Those who look with a degree of envy at the aristocratic artisans arriving at work in London in a Merc or Jag can content themselves that all good things come to an end. Come the recession, they will all be back on the bus.

Blue-collar workers a dying species

The lion's share of the best jobs over the next decade will be created in the South-East of England. Barrie Clement looks at a survey which predicts that only one in five of the workforce will be manual workers.

There will be an extra 500,000 "knowledge workers" in the South-East by 2006, while the whole of the West Midlands will only see another 80,000 jobs created, according to the Business Strategies economic forecasting group. After the South-East, the other big beneticiary of the explosion in jobs for "suits" will be the South-

West, with 130,000 jobs. Neil Blake, research director of Business Strategies, said that while the informationtechnology revolution might level out regional differences, it was making matters worse by separating production jobs from the better-paid supporting service jobs. "Despite the increasing pace of development in Scotland's Silicon Glen, the South of England continues to dominate in computer software and support jobs, while other regions lag behind."

The fastest growth in employment over the next decade is likely to occur in personal services such as restaurant and bar staff, but it will be a slower rate of increase than in the past.

Other occupations set to see an increase in demand are technical and associate professionals where jobs will be split equally between men and women. A growth is also likely among managers and sales staff and in both cases it is women who will take most of

agers and professionals grows, ment.

the number of jobs for manual workers will decline. Even skilled blue-collar staff, especially in traditional occupations, will face a lower demand for their services, according to the forecasting group.

In 1981 manual jobs skilled and unskilled - made up almost a third of total employment in the economy, but by 1996 that had fallen to 22.4 per cent. By 2006 the proportion will have dropped to 20 per cent. Falls in such kinds of employment will disproportionately hit the North and Scotland.

In 1981 there were nearly 6 million employed in manufacturing and 2.5 million in financial and husiness services. i ne two are now eq tle over 4 million. Public services continue to be the largest sector and by 2006 they may account for the employment of more than 8 million people. The biggest growth area will be health sector, where an ageing population is expected to contribute to growing demand.

The number of jobs for managers, scientists, doctors, nurses, teachers, computer experts, legal executives and other professionals has risen from 8.7 million in 1991 to 9.2 million last year and is set to rise to 10.5 million by 2006.

That amounts to a forecasted increase of 13.6 per cent, compared with an expected rise in total employment of 5.6 per cent.

Roughly half the increase in employment between 1996 and 2006 will be increased self-employment and the other half by additional part-time jobs. Fulltime employment is unlikely to increase.

Women will probably win two-thirds of the extra jobs and men one-third - although there will continue to be more As employment for man-men than women in employ-





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Stench of death in Algeria's perfumed killing fields

The Algerian army has poured troops into the Mitidia plain, south of Algiers, and says it has surrounded scores of armed 'Islamists' in the town of Ouled-Allel and the forest of Bainem. But, as our correspondent discovers in Bentalha, scene of one of the worst massacres last month, villagers and soldlers believe the war against the Islamic Armed Group is far from over.

In Egypt, the police have cut back the sugar cane fields to deny cover to their armed opponents. In Lebanon, the Israelis routinely smashed orchard walls for the same reason. But here, in the soft plain of the

Mitidia, the Algerian army have cut down the trees. And so it is that the scent of burning pine drifts over the landscape, perfurning the killing fields alongside the roads to Sidi Moussa and Bentalha.

Algerian troops are on every laneway now, at checkpoints every half mile, helmeted and flak-jacketed and wearing the sand-coloured camouflage dress of the southern deserts. And at the edge of the slaughtered townships, you can find the ministry of interior's "Patriots", the government-armed villagers who stare sullenly at our little convoy, bejeaned and T-shirted. Kalashnikov rifles over their shoulders. running shoes on their feet. They do not want their pictures taken - and who can blame them? Who wants their picture on French television when the Islamic Armed Group (GIA) is known to make videos of news broadcasts to identify possible targets. And so the survivors of the villages are

as frightened of the future as they are horrified by the past. Most of the people of Bentalha fled after the massacre last month. A few hundred drift back in the mornings; I found two trying to repair the blackened interior of their homes, ignoring my questions while a group of children who had hidden on the roof during the massacres - watched in silence. Another man refused to name his dead wife. "Her name belongs to me," he said, and began to cry.

The pathetic remnants of the families evoke something beyond pity. In each kitchen, the cheap metal trays have been twisted out of recognition, the pots smashed, medicines thrown over the floor. A pile of school books in a garage next to three huge pools of congealed blood showed how earnestly its dead owner had tried - amid the immense poverty of the Algiers slum suburbs - to improve his lot.

The first page of the boy's exercise book

shows his name was Khoreichi; he had practised his declensions and written the biography of his doomed family: "Abdelkader is my father, he is an electrician. Zhor is my mother, she is a dressmaker. Hamid is my uncle, he is a policeman. Sal-

BY ROBERT **FISK**

ima is my aunt, she is a nurse ..." I wondered whether Hamid's job might have sent the family to their deaths. But the survivors said there was no discrimination. One man said he heard the gunmen who entered the village last month shouting that their en-

A man who pleaded with me not to pubiish his name said he saw the poorer families of Bentalha seeking refuge in a large house in Hijilali street. It was no good for them," he said. "I stood here at the window and I could hear those poor people screaming and crying. When I looked out of my window, I could see them axing the women on the roof." At least 17 people died in that house alone. In one corner of it, I discovered a book of European art and another on modern Algerian history. Several pages depicted the features of dead martyrs of the 1954-62 independence war against France, their faces disfigured by bullets and shrapnel. How little Algeria's suf-

fering had changed. Nor is it likely to be reduced in the coming months. For while Algeria's Popular Liberation Army - the military descendants of the old FLN guerrilla force - have apparently surrounded two GIA units in the

forests of the Mitidja, discovering caches of arms and heaps of documentation, their officers are warning of a long and hard war to come. Their views are in sharp contrast to those of the government in Algiers whose repeated reassurances that "terrorism" - the authorities' definition of all

armed opponents - is all but crushed. On 20 August, just two days before the massacre of 349 villagers at Rais, President Liamine Zeroual announced that "terrorism is living its last hours in our country." Violent acts were to be regarded as

"residual terrorism". In the daily Le Matin, however, a senior army officer involved in the siege of the village of Ouled Allal - allegedly a GIA stronghold - has criticised what he calls "triumphalist talk about the death of terrorism". The GIA, he said, could still strike, adding grimly that "the killers are still hiding amid the shadows".

Samaritans held to ransom in battle for survival

Two years ago, ancient scrolls of the Samaritans - the tiny community which claims descent from the ancient Kingdom of Israel -- were stolen. The thieves want \$1 m for their return. Patrick Cockburn in Jerusalem says the theft has exacerbated the sense of vulnerability of the 2,500-year-old sect.

It is two years since three thieves broke down the door of the Samaritans' synagogue in Nablus in the West Bank. crossed the carpeted prayer hall and pushed aside a purple curtain concealing the altar, the Holy of Holies. From inside an ornamental wooden cahinet they stole a 700-year-old scroll of the Torah, the first five books of the Bible, and a codex of similar age written on parchment bound in red covers.

The theft is a blow which still reverberates through a comity known to the world largely through the parable of "the good Samaritan", in which Jesus chose a member of a sect which the Jews detested as an example of selfless love.

For 2,500 years, Samaritans have lived on the edge of extinction, hus they are always

conscious of their historic role. "After the death of King Solomon there was a split," says Abd Mo'in Sadaqa, a Samaritan priest. "We formed the Kingdom of Israel and the Jews the Kingdom of Judah."

They speak ancient Hebrew, believe Moses was the only prophet and accept only the first five books of the Bible. Their identity is also bound with a place - Mount Gerizim, the stony mountain which towers above Nahlus on the West Bank, The Samaritans believe it was here, not Jerusalem, that Abraham prepared to sacrifice his son Isaac. "We do not believe in Jerusalem," said Abd-Moin Sadaqa.

There are just 583 Samaritans in the world, divided between Mount Gerizim and Holon, south of Tel Aviv. In 1917, there were only 146.

Binyamin Tsedaka, editor of their newspaper, A.B. (Aleph-Bet), says however few they are, they still have their own language, history and culture. Each year at Passover, the entire community gathers on Mount Gerizim to sacrifice sheep in a ritual similar to that Samaritans also feel acutely vulnerable and the theft of their Torahs in March 1995 has exacerhated this sense of

In the last century, impoverished Samaritans often sold



which shrank from about 4,000 to only 35. Mr Tsedaka says those that remain are "a symbol of the existence of our

Ever since the theft, the Samaritans have been trying to

the Palestinian leader who now rules Nablus as an independent Palestinian enclave. The Samaritans are the only quasi-Jewish community under his control and he is eager to show his tolerance. They have also

eign Office, and King Hussein

The scroll and the codex are safe but the thieves have taken them to Jordan. Their original demand was for \$7m,

manuscripts, the number of enlist the help of Yasser Arafat, sought the assistance of the US though this was reduced to us a man in a car who showed official in the Palestinian Social Welfare Ministry, who first had

12 o' clock at night. They sent

there were the scrolls. The Samaritans says they do not have that kind of money. contact with the thieves, says: Binyamin Tsekada says their re-"I went to the Grand Hotel maining manuscripts have now in Amman and waited until all been moved to their syna-

gogue in their settlement, Kiryat Luza, on Mount Gerizim

The Samaritans add that, fortunately, the thieves who broke into the synagogue discarded the metal case holding the Torah scroll which was made in 1571 and is worth millions of dollars.

The last contact with the thieves when they reduced their demand to \$1m was in Amman this September. The Samaritans were again shown the scrolls, though they noticed that fragments had fallen off.

The Samaritan leaders stress how helpful everybody has been. Mr Samri says Mr Arafat is "always searching for the good of the Samaritans". When their shops were attacked during the Palestinian Intifada - they have since largely moved from Nablus to Mount Gerizim - he paid for the damage.

But beneath these protestations of gratitude there is a sense of fear, deep but unexpressed. Most of the Samaritans in Gerizim carry Jordanian passports; those in Holon have Israeli passports and serve in

the Israeli army. Mr Samri says: "We are a small community; we have seen many governments, we keep out of politics." But the Samaritans may find such neutrality difficult in a land where Israel and the Palestinians fight for

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Bomber Harris was unfairly blamed for terror raids

he had been at a long and had been a start in Alamon Germany, Sir Arthur Somber' Harris is seen s a war criminal. But vidence pieced ogether by an eminent Istorian suggests Harris ras unfairly reviled and hat another air chief ras the real force ehind saturation ed to the sege of the **Itacks on German** ivilian targets.

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single pink carnation had een placed last week at the oot of the statue of "Bomber farris".

The bronze figure stares lefiantly down the Strand, a iero to some but to many othas a lasting symbol of Britain's icknowledgement that, yes, we oo may have behaved hadly in he Second World War.

When the statue was uneiled five years ago, it was romptly daubed with bloody

BY IAN BURRELL

ed paint. The former head of lomber Command has posthurously inherited the epitaph as Britain's War Criminal".

But in a new appraisal of the ole of Bomber Command. lichard Overy, professor of nodern history at King's Colge, London, argues that the antroversial policy of attackig civilian targets in order to estroy German morale was asterminded not by Harris, ut by the much-admired chief f British air staff, Sir Charles

Drawing on once-classified ocurrents, Professor Overy igual that Harris disagreed ith the policy but managed work within the strategy concentrate oo industrial

In so doing, he argues, Hars helped bring an early end to

the war. The papers show that Ported had framed the moraleerushing strategy as early as June 1941, eight months before Harris even came to Bomber Command.

In a Bombing Policy Report" drafted for the prime minister, he writes: "The most vulnerable point in the German nation at war is the morale of her civilian population under air

He suggests that "preference to be given to objectives in Germany so situated that bombs which miss their precise target nevertheless directly affect the morale of the German civil population."

Three months later he is even more adamant that civilian morale is the key German weak spot.

He writes: "There is a large and growing body of opinion to the effect that by keeping as many Germans as possible out of bed for as long as possible every night we shall achieve far greater morale effect and not much less material effect than by attempting concentrated attacks with the primary object of material destruction."

Professor Overy said: There's no doubt that Portal's view of bombing is that the critical thing is that it kills people and destroys their houses and, in some unspecified way, the war-willingness of the population ... Portal had this stereotypical view of the Germans that they were bullies and if you punch a bully on the nose he stops fighting."

By April 1942, a few weeks after Harris had taken up his position. Portal had coined a new description for the bombing strategy – Coventration – a reference to the Luftwaffe's devastating raids un Coventry

Portal writes: "It was suggested at today's Cabinet that we should make a list of about 25 towns in Germany suitable for Coventration and that this list should be published by the BBC so as to cause alarm and despondency ... '

In the same document, Por-



tal notes that he has spoken to Harris, who is "averse" to such scare tactics.

Harris believed that disclpline in Germany was such that threats of this nature would not effect morale. By November 1942, Portal was drawing up potential casualty figures, for a stepped-up bombing campaign during 1943 and 1944, in a way that Prufessor Overy described as "chilling".

The predicted results would include "the destruction of 6 million German dwellings ... 25 million Germans rendered homeless ... an additional 60 million "incidents" of bomb damage to houses ... civilian casualties estimated at about 900,000 killed and 1,000,000 seriously injured".

He goes on: "If the attacks were spread over the main urhan areas the result would be to render homeless threequarters of the inhabitants of all German towns with a population of over 50,000."

A highly respected administrator with an acute mind. Portal was one of the few people Churchill would take trouble to listen to.

Handsome and publicschool educated, he was also highly regarded by the American air chiefs. By contrast, Harris was a

brusque career airman who had no time for those who disagreed with him.

According to Professor Overy, he was a man of strong last. In April 1945, when it was

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ted at to-day's Cabinet that we should min a list of street 25 tours in Greaty suitable for "Investration" and that this list should be published by the R.R.C. So as to come alarm and despondency and the We should of course be perfectly free ment on the list and paragelly se should not give any crear for the tones on the list. Will you please exed list is consultation with Somer Countril and any whether they, or the Air Stall, 500 any objection to the course proposed by the Cebinst. Hy own view is that it would have a good effect so long as we frequently

Off the hook: The statue of Sir Arthur Harris in the Strand, London, and part of the Bornbing Policy Report' that Sir Charles Portal, chief of British air staff, drafted in 1942, suggesting the terror-bombing campaign usually associated with Harris, head of Bomber Command, for which he has been described by some as a war criminal

views, which bordered at times being argued that German on sheer prejudice".

He was also "terse, businesslike, immensely hardworking and single-minded to a degree".

When his statue was controversially unveiled by the Queen Mother in 1992, some 200 peace protesters tried to disrupt the ceremony and sprayed paint on onlookers. The statue was later daubed with the word "Shame".

By 1944. Harris was still stressing that the role of the heavy-bomber force was "the destruction of the enemy's industrial centres",

Professor Overy said: "Harris himself always thought bis job was not to attack morale as a primary objective but to destroy the industrial centres of Germany."

But Portal insisted on the morale-based strategy to the

towns should not be unnecessarily destroyed, as facilities were needed by advancing Allied forces and for reconstruction, Portal overruled the

"Any ultimate political or economic disadvantages of area bombing necessitated by these operations should be accepted,"

Professor Overy, whose views are expressed in a new book, Bomber Command 1939-45, published yesterday, said; "Portal is consistent with his views right through to the end of the war that area bombing, causing high civilian casualties and destruction of housing, was what was needed."

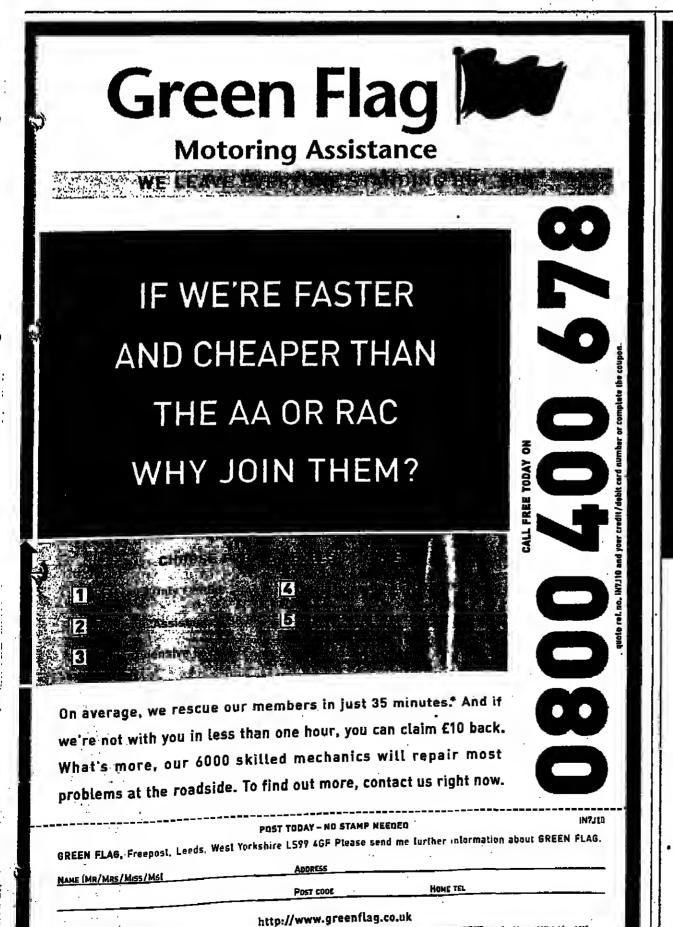
But Professor Overy said that, despite Portal's directives, the single-minded Harris still managed to steer his own path.

The result was that, while Harris was well aware there

would be huge casualties from his bombing missions, fewer people died than might have been the case had the Portal strategy been fully implemented. And the war, Professor Overy argues, was successfully brought to an earlier conclusion.

"It was touch more successful than people have been able to accept; this was Britain, a liberal democracy, slaughtering large numbers of Germans in a ghastly way. There is no doubt that people at that time and now felt it was immoral. But the bombing turned out to be a critical factor in limiting Germany's war capability in the last years of the war,"

"People in Germany are starting to talk about the bombings as war crimes in the same hreath as the Holocaust or the atrocities on the Eastern Front. Getting the record straight is more important than ever."





Tung backs Hong Kong role as Britain's bridge to China

Tung Chee-Hwa, the Chief Executive of Hong Kong, started his visit to Britain yesterday by attacking the 'doomsayers whose predictions have been shattered to pieces' since the handover to China four months ago. He told Steve Crawshaw he will defend Hong Kong's separate status.

On his first visit to Britain since taking of- Secretary, for what was described as "an fice, Mr Time praised the rule of law as "the cornerstone of Hong Kong's success" and "arguably the finest British legacy". Hong Kong, he said, would seek to preserve that

Speaking at the Royal Institute of International Affairs, he also insisted that Britain should be wary of seeking to impose its own values elsewhere in the

Mr Tung met Robin Cook, the Foreign

extremely warm and friendly meeting". Mr Cook avoided potentially thorny issues. He "regretted the arrangements" for elections next May, which are seen as less democ-

ratic than the elections of 1995, but he also praised Mr Tung's declared commitment to work towards "the goal of universal suffrage". He avoided endorsing the critical tone of the Hong Kong Democrats - the largest party in 1995, who are now, in effect, excluded from the political process.

the "special ties between Hong Kong and Britain". Mr Timg endorsed Labour's idea that Hong Kong can now be "a bridge, not an obstacle" between Britain and China: "The baggage of history has been shed. It's a wonderful opportunity for Britain and

China to have a new relationship." But the affable Mr Ting - a leading Hong Kong businessman before he was choseo as Chief Executive of the territory with Peking's blessing-emphasised that

Mr Cook and Mr Tung both talked of Hong Kong would allow on meddling in sensitive political matters. "Hong Kong should not be permitted to be used as a base to destabilise China," he said.

After his meeting with Mr Cook, Mt Tung taiked to The Independent of "the tremendous burden of history" that he felt as the first Chief Executive of Hong Kong. He insisted that the official mantra about Hong Kong and China - "one country, two systems" - applied not just to Hong Kong's capitalism, but to the "economic, political

and social system". The separation must be "a fence with no holes". He refused to be drawn on the long-term convergence of the two systems and the crucial issue of whether Hong Kong's politics will evectually become closer to those of China today, or whether China's own Communist

regime will soften as the years go by. Mr Tung said the human-rights situation in China is not as bad as it is portrayed. "In China, people have a lot of rights. They're just differently expressed."

Cook puts trade first on Commonwealth agenda

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday described the 50-natioo Commonwealth as a great tradiog network in a speech delivered in advance of his first Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting tomorrow in Edinburgh. Using phraseology that

would oot have shamed a Thatcherite free-marketeer, Mr Cook extolled the association - of which, he said, Britain is now merely an important member rather than a leader as a means of opening access to markets and promoting business links, especially between the developed and the less developed worlds.

He added, however, that free trade should also be fair and that globalisation should oot necessarily cause the destruction of "traditional structures of social protectioo". "Core labour standards" would also need to be enforced.

The strength of the Commonwealth in comparison to such international organisations as the OECD (Organfor Economic Co-operation and Development) or the G8 group of leading industrial powers, he said, was that it brought together developed and less developed countries in conditions of relative equality. Britain wanted to boost investment in less developed couotries and make

for poor countries. Mr Cook dismissed as "facile dichotomy" Britain's role in the Commonwealth and its membership of the Euronean Union.

further progress oo debt relief

Just as the Freoch and Germans vigorously pursued their economic interests outside Europe, so Great Britain was fully entitled to exploit the "rich asset" of Commonwealth membership.

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Mr Cook was keen to dispel any lingering shadows from his and the Queen's trip to the Commonwealth's most populous member, India. He repeated his denial that he had many any statements or comments oo the cootroversial question of Kashmir.

As well as economics, the Heads of Government meeting will discuss the environment, and especially questions of access to fresh water and the consequences of the tropical forest fires that have been raging in South East Asia.

Questions of enlargement and democracy will be addressed privately; this is a code for the probable re-admission to the Commonwealth of Fiji the cootinuing suspension of Nigeria and the scrutiny of political conditions in the West African states of Sierra Leone and Gambia.

- David Walker



right-wing CDs seized when police investigated 26 houses in the states of Schleswig Holstein and Hamburg

Albanians mourn as first bodies are recovered from rammed refugee ship

More than six months after the sinking of a rickety ship packed with Albanian civilians trying to cross the Adriatic and reach Italy, several dozen corpses were at last recovered from the wreckage yesterday following a much-delayed salvage operation by the Italian authorities.

The bodies, some very badly decomposed after months under water, were brought out of the hulk of the Kater I Rades and carried off to a morgue in the Italian port of Brindisi. Relatives of the dead stood morosely on the barbour with

The exact number of the dead was not yet clear yesterday evening, but Albanian estimates of around 80 bodies appeared to be roughly accurate.

The sinking of the Kater Rades on 28 March was one of the most shocking episodes flowers for their loved ones. : in the violeot revolution that

shook Albania last spring. The boat was rammed by an Italian navy vessel patrolling the Adriatic in an effort to stem the tide of Albanian refugees. Arguments are still raging whether the action was deliberate or a tragic accideot, and a full-scale judicial inquiry is in progress.

The corpses will be transported to Vlora, in Albania, for full funeral services once the ideotification process is complete. Some bodies are so badly deformed that DNA testing may be necessary to confirm their identities.

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US bluff is ntaract called in test-ban row

US government's ego hurt," might be the better description for events after 16 August when the US State and Defence Departments thought they had spotted an underground ouclear test in Novaya Zemlya,

Such a test would violate the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which the United States is still debating whether to

Russia signed the treaty in September 1996, having used Novaya Zemlya to carry out tests from 1964 to 1990.

"Small earthquake off Russia,

Russia.

Hence the US administration was quick to hint that it thought Russia had broken the agreement - an empty gosture, since signing a broken agreement has oo use.

The 16 August rumblings were described as having "explosive characteristics" by the two departments.

government was calling it "unresolved" and "lending itself to alternative interpretations".

that it was an earthquake and definitely not a bomb.

ministration has none.

"The eveot of 16 August to show what can go wrong," commented.

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Even in September, the US ✓ Speech

However, their bluff now has been called by a team of seismologists at Columbia University, New York, who have analysed the data and found

Apart from anything else, the scientists note: "the event took place tens of kilometres offshore, in an area where water depths are around 400 metres. Nuclear explosive testing is not credible in such an environment unless there is other evidence". And the US ad-

The scientists hope their work will lead to the CTBT being ratified - rather than hawks in the US Senate using the erroneous story to push for continued use of underground nuclear testing.

has provided an opportunity they oote. The US State and Defence departments have not

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Terri Culy.

Tax world's largest solar-pow-eted canopy - as hig as two hockey fields - will be revealed in Yorkshire at the new Earth Centre, opening in summer 1998.

A British engineer, Tom Barker, hit oo the notiun of sun-shades powered by solar eoergy in a competition to design harbour gardens in Osaka, Japan. More than just a hright idea, it proves that solar panels are getting flexible aod can be used on fabric.

Another world first, the world's chicest three-storeyed condominiums track the sun to store it for household use in a design by the British designer Ross Lovegrove. It will cost no more than a motorboat.

There are still only five households to Britain that soluly use solar energy to power their houses. One in Nottingham and one in Oxford, hoth owned by architects, and the other three, terraced houses completed this summer by Greenpeace at Silvertown in Londoo's Docklands.

So all this designer energy which shows the sun hasn't set oo British iogenuity is good

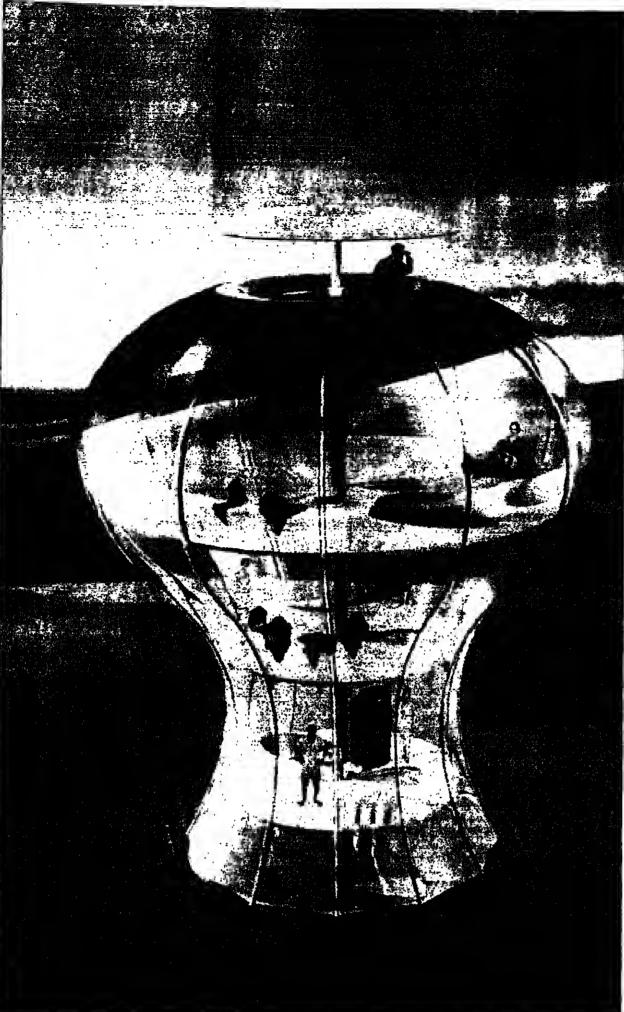
World oil consumption levels are up to the peak late Seventies all-time highs. That was the last time designers learnt to harness the sun, in photovoltaic panels oo the roof to store the sun and convert it into electricity or through solar radiation, warm the water.

Oce of the disheartening things about solar energy used to be that il was technologically clunky and complicated. You had to huy an array of gigantic solar panels that glinted on the roof. They had to be angled just so to catch the sun. Solar houses always look like Swiss chalets with high pitched Aline roofs and deep overhangs and who wants to live in a Berni Inn? Or else you had Heath Robinson wires and solampanels stuck on telegraph poies to try to power the telephooe from solar energy. No

The solar race between the big companies is just begin-

BP in Britain, which has always kept its 'Solar Power Divisioo' as evideoce that it sees the energy issue as wider than oil consumption, is now taking a hig interest. John Browo, its Chief Executive, says that he wants BP solar to move from an annual turnover of about from to, within to years,

Brown says that he is coofident they can make solar costs competitive across the planet in a decade. What he oceds is the UK government support to sponsor solar energy consumption with upfroot capital and longer market entry mechanisms to encourage more users. The United States government has encouraged this with interest-free loans, reversible merering and spending a lot on solar energy on their own huildings.



Ross Lovegrove's three-storey house of the future

### PVC, light-driven and filled with ergon gas: meet your future home

Alternative living in the next century in a capsule like this could make you selfsufficient. A friendly little pod like a lighthulh, it is made of PVC, and filled with ergon gas which chills out by day and warms up by night. Lidded with a rotating photovoltaic panel that tracks the sun, it absorbs in silica wafers the maximum radiated heat from the sun to transfer it via a simple etectronic current into battery storage below ground.

An aluminium mast roots the solar seed to the water supply - there is rainwater collection as well - and carries plumbing and cabling from the sunlight storage below ground to serve the three floors. The rooftop visor vents the place

the Earth that's the most efficient shape to maximise sunlight," says Ross Lovegrove, the man who came up with this remarkable vision.

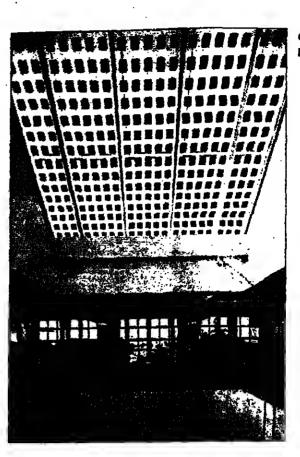
He knows that the PVC walls aren't considered environmentally frieodly hut the mixture of aluminium, carboo fibre. Keviar and F board means that the structure will last a tong time and that it will he more user-friendly than fossil fuel driven dinosaurs.

the Italian hathroom manufacturer, Herman Miller USA, Japan Airlines, Peugeot and Airbus Industries and Ital- you in the near future.

"It's spherical because we learn from ian kitchen, hathroom, lighting and fur-

niture manufacturers. But the business of persuading manufacturers that mind-bending designs are do-able is not easy. He carries a Tote bag full of designer things with him to meetings - to show that his chair can have a flexible part where the rigid hack meets the seat, he shakes a ski boot manufactured in Injection moulded plastic at

When he took the glittery red car He's working oo the project now with bumper light material and turned it into the toughest vacuum flask, called "Alfie", Guzzini Teuco. Lovegrove works for it became a bestseller. So if his track Mazda and Olympus, Apple and Sony, record is anything to go by this product will be in clusters on site somewhere oear



Greenpeace's solarpanel-powered offices

#### Moving alternative energy into the mainstream: Greenpeace puts its case

In Greenpeace's solar- the Peabody Trust. panelled offices, minds are of course much turned to sustaioable eoergy and what Britain is not yet

They will tell you that in Germany if you install solar-powered panels and manage to put back into the grid any excess energy, you get back Sp for every unit

you save. That sort of incentive is what Greenpeace wants to they know what they know town in London's Docklands to conjunction with 2010."

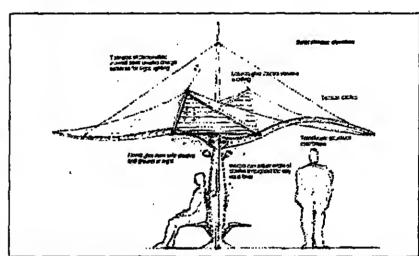
It cost around £6,000 per house to install the panels and as things stand they save around £60 annually on the fuel bill. The payhack period

works out at 100 years. Even so, Marcus Rand, the Greenpeace director on Solar Challenge, is hullish about the prospects for solar energy.

He knows that it is the only future which is left to see, especially now that us, "By redirecting £17m which is currently spent oo about the three terraced oil, coal and gas industries houses they built at Silver- each year. Britain could have 50,000 solar homes by

in the meantime. Britons will be able to get inspiration from a source other than Greenpeace. The Earth Centre, which opens in Yorkshire next summer, is one of the first projects to receive lottery funds. It will have hands-on exhibitions for Green scientists and installations and studio tours to demonstrate the recovery of the Earth in the 21st century if solar power is more widely used, There will be prototypes of Millennium cities and a project called Waterworks. which will show you how to grow your own food chain

#### A place in the sun - and in every other weather condition



Tom Barker's solar-panelled sunshades: creating enough energy to provide a cool or warm environment, and to drive lights by night

Otion to landscape a narrow harbour strip in Osaka, Japao, Tom Barker designed solar-panelled sunshades. About five metres across with a series of solar panels like triangles on each shade, they can store enough energy to warm the shelter in winter, drive lights by night, and nower a fan by day to cool it down in summer. Then he de-

In ao international compe-signed a teahouse which sits over the canal with ventilation systems and underground tubes that draw in air from inlets some 30 metres away to either heat or coot it. A wind turbine on the top ventilates the tea-

> His "House of the Future", proposed for Wheel on the Thames (if it Wandsworth with the ar- ever gets off the ground) chitects Richard Rogers with BP solar panels on the

ter-powered lift, solar panels and wind turbine, to building of the next century. Reversing the overheated glass in midsummer syndrome, he plans to coot down the glass capsules for 16 people spinning around the Millennium Ferris Partnership, will have a wa-roof to drive the fans inside.

### Necessity, the mother of British modernism

An exhibition at the Fine Arts Society in London, 'Austerity to Affluence ... British Art & Design 1945-62', proves not only that Britain could make it (the title of an exhibition at Heals in 1946) but that British designers were ahead of

There's more to modernism than being designer smart about shape. As the furniture designer Robin Day explains. in the foreword to the exhi-

the modernists

elsewhere.

bition catalogue (a collectors' item for the future): "We naïvely felt that modern townplanning and enlightened design of buildings and products would transform the environment and enhance the lives of the people."

Not so naïvely, as history shows. All over Britain, sitting comfortably in their Parker Knoll or Ercol chairs, with an amoeba-shaped coffee-table and its Formica top, Venetian blinds and Axminster carpets, New Towners faced a brave oew world.

As the austerity and rationing of the war years lifted, a new style emerged in Britain. Wood was still rationed and because of the utility scheme, companies could produce steel frame, shown at the Fes-

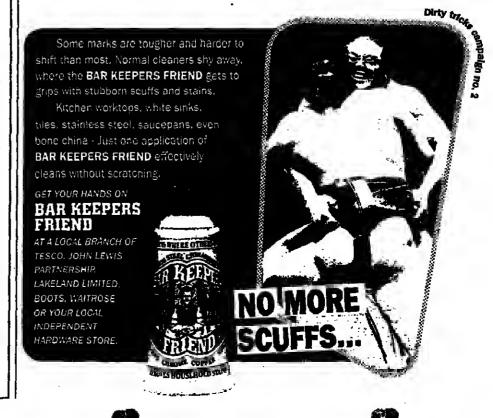
furniture only to government tival of Britain, or the bouncy "Kangaroo", his rockingspecification. It had to be cheap, use little wood bought chair commissioned for the roof terrace of the 1952 Time in hulk, and make up for the lack of materials. So furniture Life huilding in New Bond slimmed down, using skeletal Street. He designed a slender dining-room suite called "Alsteel rods for construction or aluminium off-cuts and legro", made from lightweight plywood developed during hooeycomh wood veneers from the aeroplane industry. the War for aircraft construc-Duckcloth from RAF seats was recycled as upholstery. Fifties, Italian designers did Adhesives made for aerocommitment to produce furniture, lights and glass. planes sandwiched veneers. everyday furniture at afford-Objects were called by their serial numbers, in the able prices. Nobody under-

machine-age tradition. But modernism like the British. their quirky anthropomorphic forms meant they got called "Antelope", like the lieves. After the Secood October-14 November springy slacking chair by Ernest Race, with its painted World War, modernism in Italy became largely a matter

of showbiz prototypes; in Denmark it was one-offs or small batch production, beautifully crafted by cabinet workers; while Americans' modernism became powerdress office furniture by Eames and Frank Lloyd Wright, rather than everyday household items. Only Finland tion. Post-war and into the stuck to the industrial agenda with a social conscience by not have the same drive and mass-producing Alvar Aallo

The cut-off date for this exhibition is 1962, when pop slood the concept behind came in, and ansterity changed to affluence. "Our designers were anti- 'Austerity to Affluence ... British élitist", Geoff Rayoet be- Art & Design 1945-62' runs 20

Nonie Niesewand



### Hello Ken, welcome back to **County Hall**

Turn again Livingstone! It was II years since he had set foot in this room - his office when he was London's big cheese. Janie Laurence took him back and found him maturing nicely.

After 15 minutes' wait I'm beginning to fret that Ken Livingstone is not going to show for lunch. "I haven't set foot in that building since a foreign, alien power took over," he's told me earlier oo the phnne. One thing's for sure, if he's had a change of heart he won't call on my mohile to let me know. "I wnn't use them, can't stand them," he says abruptly when I try to give him the number. Alien powers, mobile phones. That's Ken. If he doesn't like something he's never been shy about letting us know.

Thankfully, he arrives, breathless and apologetic. There was never any chance of his not coming because there's a Chinese lunch no offer. And he would never miss that.

The restaurant is in what used to be a suite of room adjacent to his own when he was leader of the GLC. Ken hasn't set foot there for 11 years. They used to produce radical policies for the people; now they offer a splendid chicken in lemon sauce and are bedecked with chandeliers and red paper fanterns. From the window, a perfect view of Ken's current office, minutes from the House nf Commons. But whereas during Ken's time politicians would look over to County Hall and see a large banner taunting them with Loodon's latest unemployment figures, that's now been replaced by one advertising the aquarium.

ago. In 1986 when the GLC was

public loved to hate. He attracted hysterical tabloid headlines whenever he spoke.

To the fury of Michael Foot he issued a personal invitation tn Sinn Fein leaders. Grants were awarded to groups such as the Lesbian Left. In such a flurry of antipathy his Fares Fair public transport policy is often forgotten. "I loved it," he recalls. "We were just ahead of our time. Is any one of those things I did not now mainstream politics?"

He looks around his old nffice - a wood panelled room with dangling bare light fittings. Doesn't it make him sentimental? "I only get sentimental abnut people, nnt buildings," he replies swiftly. In 1987 he became MP for

some residents he was still Red Ken who couldn't guarantee their bins were emptied. Ten years on and he's reinvented himself. He's become Cuddly Ken. A spot of panto, a cheese advert, innumerable radio and chat show appearances, "It was a deliberate strategy. The best way to reach people is to be nn Jimmy Young." Cuddly though is doubtless not the view of him in Millbank. No matter how fresh-faced assistants brief him, he will keep doing annoying things like banging no about raising taxes. He mentioned it at least five times to me. Tve always heen cuddly," he says, patently not displeased by his change in fortune. "It wasn't my fault that the media depicted me as some Mandelsonian monster. Although f was more hated than he's ever been."

Since Livingstone heat Mandelson tn a place on the NEC last month all sorts of unlikely people have been skulking up to Ken offering their congratulations. So what does Ken think of Mandelsoo? "He's It all seems so terribly long very witty and very clever." How restrained. No, actually.



a smidgen of schadenfreude. Well a dollop more like. It was an ecstatic-looking Ken caught nn camera when the NEC result was announced, "Yes, the party nfficial had just come over and said, 'You've pissed all over him." He guffaws. Ken is a supreme mischief-maker. He says he views politics as a game. Although it's nften hard in gauge how serious the intent is behind the words. His voice is even more nasal

live. In a gruesome dark greeo shiny suite he looks like one of those door-to-door hinkes whn will do you a good deal on tea towels. Yet many women are rather attracted in Ken. In fact amnng my female friends, especially since he shaved nff his moustache, he's got something of a following. What they would like to do to you is unprintable, f tease him. "No, print it, print it," he says, his already ruddy said that I was disruptive or mixcheeks reddening with pleasure.

ferred the company of women. "I don't like pubs, I don't like smoking and I don't like sport so it's a bad start. And when you're with a group of men socially you tend to have a series of statements. Before someone is finished, somebody else is making another. All these men are competing to take the conversation into the area they want in go. So you come away thinking nobody listens. It's exhausting because it's like we're all strutting around with

nur feathers erect." Politics was never part of his game plan. His childhood amhition was to he an astronaut. Lambeth not being the obvious recruiting centre for Apollo missions, instead he went m an all-boys school in Tulse Hill. Even then his school reports gave some indication of what was to come. "They always ing with the wrong crowd. And

I knew was wrong I wouldn't give in. I challenged them.'

After school he worked as a lah technician and then trained as a teacher, Elected to Lambeth Council he had by then "fallen in love" with politics. As a child money was tight so both his parents had day and evening jobs. "We oever wanted for anything but it was a struggle." He was particularly close to his mother who died aged 82 in August this year. "We recognised that she was fading away, then nue night in the hospital she asked for a sherry and just passed away in her sleep." His dad died of a heart attack wheo he was 56. "No man ever lives long in my

family," he announces breezily. Now 52, does he worry about the passage of time? "I swim three times a week," is all

fer to tell me how much he loves his garden. Home to the most Too personal and the shutfamous newts in Britain. Why ters come down, like a true does he so love newts? "ft was could stand Kinnock. You can

enjoys going to the cinema. What was the last film he saw? children. Married at 28 and sub-'Oh I can't remember," sequently divorced eight years Ken is most in his element later he has been living with his discussing figures. So many hilpartner Kate Allen, who works lion pounds for this could mean at the Refugee Council, for to

years. I think he would be so many million for that and then if that billinn was subrather a sweet dad. Has he ever tracted by that million. Glazing regretted not having children? "My ex-wife had a miscarriage over, I really have to tell him, a year before we split up so it enough already. He's talking to a woman whn still hasn't maswasn't a decision not in have tered percentages nn a calcuthem." That must have been latnr. Ken, you see, actually horrible, I say. "Mmm," he renlies in definitively male fashyearns to be Chancellor of the Exchequer. Surely he would ioo before pursuing a sociohate tn be a minister? He logical analysis of the drawbacks of the contemporary would certainly have to toe the nuclear family in the West. Yes party line theo. "If you accept the job you're stuck with that." but what if Kate bad wanted Coming as it does hat on the them? "If she had really wanted them then we'd have had heels of his assessment of the role of the Cabinet it seems unthem," he says.

He would really much pre-

doced to little more than a sounding board." say in Blair, 'f doo't agree with

likely he could. "It's now re-

this,' and he doesn't pound the table or scream abuse. With Kinnock it was almost physical. I nften used to think that he might lean over and headbut

you. He was appalling." He may not become a minister but he's making a very publie bid to become the new Mayor of London. Free entry in museums and art galleries, more bus lanes, a joh creatino scheme - he's already been pitching hard. "They'll probably have some special classe that men born in June 1945 are barred from standing," he says sardonically. As we leave we bump into a town crier whn enthusiastically pledges his support. Ken excuses himself. These days he's always in a rush. "It was easier when I was reviled and marginalised - at least I knew what f was doing," he says. He doesn't mean it. "But f like Blair - I never Ken knows he's popular and he's enjoying every minute.

Gilbert L

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Anne

### I deal with my pain but I can't ignore it - why don't friends see that?



#### DILEMMAS

Christine's had back pain for 10 years, and has tried everything from conventional to alternative medicine. but her life's become very restricted. She does her best to cope bravely, but though some friends are sympathetic, she hears that others think she's malingering. How can she get more understanding?

#### VIRGINIA IRONSIDE

I always remember when I was suffering over the death of my father and would try to describe how miserable I felt to friends. I would say that the night before I had cried all the time, that I could hardly nperate, that I speot hours banging the walls and shouting, and yet, because I told them this in a matter-offact voice when I wasn't particularly upset, I had had the sense that they thought I was like a fisherman describing the one that had got away. "Sure she's miserable," I felt they were muttering, cynically. "She seems pretty OK now. It's just a plea for sympathy.

And it's true that unless you are actually screaming in emotional nr physical agony bearing a doctor's certificate signed by the Lord Mayor, the Pope and the Queen, some people can't quite get it into their heads just how hellish life can be for people in pain. .

Why is this? One is that if you're doing your best to be brave, a lot of people tend to take you at face value. If Christine only appears at social dos stuffed with Nurofen with a grin on her face, they feel this must be possible all the time. Some friends can also be very frightened of pain of any kind.

I once became very upset when in hospital because nuc of my best friends refused to visit or ring. She simply seot one postcard from abroad saying what a great time she was having. It was only when I realised that it was due to her huge fear of illness, and her tremendnus dependence on me as a strong character, that I understood that she was probably more deserving of sympathy than myself and shouldn't be struck

from my address book.

The other reason some of Christine's friends may be unsympathetic is because back pain is rather like depression. Everyone has a twinge now and again and gets through it; everyone is low now and again and copes with it. When they hear the words "back pain" they automatically think it is something like the same as the pain they suffer and naturally are unsympathetic. They simply haven't got the imagination tn realise that acute back pain is excruciating and can make you feel positively sick with agooy.

And anyway, do we ourseives always believe our friends? Just think nf how dilficolt it is for people whn say they've been sexually abused to get themselves heard, let alone believed; and certainly frieods nf mine have declared themselves supremely happy and yet I have been certain that I see a pain in the back of their eyes that belies their verdict.

What can Christine do? She may fiod that discovering another name for her back pain would get her more sympathy. There are all kinds of back pain, and she could declare that her doctor says she is suffering from "ankylosing spondylitis". "sciatica", "osteoarthritis", "ruptured disc", nr even "spinal-cord tumour" - or she could invent some weird piece of Greek or Latin gobbledegook to baffle her friends into believing that what she suffers

from is truly serious. Or she could, rather than out a brave face on it, collapse a couple of times in front of her friends, unable, say, to cross the road. Showing that she suffers could get far mnre understanding than just telling

#### WHAT READERS SAY

Learn to like the new person you have become

I sympathise very much with Christine's hurt, physical and emotional, as I too suffer chronic pain, from RSI.

Chronic pain changes the persocality, and this can be the hardest thing about it. Often, one doesn't recognise the person reflected back by the people one interacts with Frankly, I think Christine's former friends don't like her any more. She is not the same person that they used tn have fun with. Her challenge is to accept this, without liking herself any the less. In time, she can get to know and love her new self, and find friends who share the more limited pleasures that she is still capable of.

Joy may come less easily into her life, hut compassion and serenity may grow tn take its place. Caroline Macafee Aberdeen

#### Sometimes it is better to get rid of disbelieving friends

I sympathise absolutely with Christine. The essential thing is "to be believed". f speak from my own experience of a chronic chest condition. What, I imagine, Christine would like to hear is, "Yes, I do believe you," or words to that effect, and then the questinn, "How is it?"

If her friends appear not to believe her and they fail to make a genuine inquiry, she may well be better off withnnt them. One way would be to write a letter stating, objectively, that her back pain truly is a problem and that she is doing all that she can about it even if "resting it", if that is what is needed, may unt seem a very positive thing. The letter could well go oo to say that if she is not in touch for the time being she hopes,

or trusts, that they understand.

This lack of belief on the part of some friends could perhaps be a factor in her back pain. One does not want "advice", but simply to be understood. If the friends simply refuse to understand she might well be better to end gently the contact. I have done this myself with two

disbelievers. After a while, not having disbelieving "friends" in mind is a relief. Michael Guyer

#### Get support from others who face the same problem

I am bedridden with ME and for the first couple of years had severe difficulties with people not taking my illness seriously. There are no easy answers. You can try educating your friends, using leaflets or books about chronic pain, but ultimately it is up to them whether they face up to your situation. Whatever people think or say about you, it is important in hang nn to your belief in yourself. I have found it invaluable to be in contact with others in a similar position, partly because t don't have to keep explaining or defending myself. Perhaps you might benefit from this as well? Zoe Williams Farringdon, Oxon

#### You can still keep in touch without going out

I have had the same problem for the last two years and I have watched friends slowly disappear. I have managed to hold on the my closest friends by inviting them on a regular basis to my home for drinks. If you fully explain the problems, not simply "back pain" but "spinal dam-

age", people are more sympathetic. The real answer I have found is to refocus your life so that friends are not so important. I have dooe this by, for example, subscribing to magazines which are relevant to me. Every day brings a new interest which helps to alleviate the problem. I read two broadsheets in the morning and catch up on the other magazines and papers in the afternoon. I have found that by doing this my brain is kept very busy and active and when friends dn come I have a lot to discuss and am no innger hurt by the people whn have dropped me from their circuit and view. ME Cole

#### **NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA**

Everything's fine, and my parents really like him, hut for some reason his mother and stepfather refuse to meet me. can think of no reason, I don't have a police record, or anything. I'm just an ordinary student, though I come from a working-class background, unlike John. I have heen barred from Christmases and weddings, and have met John's mnther only once. when she could hardly bear to shake my hand. John won't really say why they won't meet me, and t am starting to hate them, particularly as I know

I have been going nut with the rest of the family, his Juhn for two years now. brothers and sisters, and they are all extremely friendly. Why is she like this, and what can I dn?

> Letters are welcome, and everyone who has a suggestion quoted will be sent a bouquet from Interflora Send personal experiences or comments to me at the Features Department, 'The Independent', I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145DL (fax 0171-293 2182) by Tuesday morning.

If you have any dilemma of your own that you would like to share, please let me know.



Christopher Lee will be at Harrods on Saturday.

Christopher Lee will be signing copies of his autobiography

Tall, Dark and Gruesome in the Book Department, Second Floor,

on Saturday 25th October 1997 at 12 noon. Published by Gollancz, price £15.99. If you are unable to attend please telephone

on 0181 479 5100 to reserve your signed copy.

Harrods Limited, Knightsbridge, London SWIX 7XI

Mr Ian Penman, to be a member of the Council on Tribunals. Mr John Prophet, to be President of the Industrial Tribunals for England

#### The Right Rev Robin Woods Robert Wilmer Woods, priest: born Lausanne.

Switzerland I5 February 1914;

ordained deacon 1938, priest

1939; Chaplain to the Forces

1942-46 (despatches 1944);

Vicar of South Wigston,

Archdeacon of Singapore

Tankersley 1958-62; Dean of

Windsor 1962-70; Domestic

Chaplain to the Queen 1962-

Mole Order of the Garter

1962-70; Secretary, Anglican/

Methodist Commission for

Worcester 1970-81; KCVO

1971; Prelate of the Most

Distinguished Order of St

Michael and St George 1971-

89; Assistant Bishop, Diocese

of Gloucester 1982-97; KCMG

1989; married 1942 Henrietta

Gloucestershire 20 October

Rohin Woods's career as an

Anglican church leader em-

bodied the crisis for the church-

es in the late 20th century.

He gave energetic and warm.

hearted service in a number of

poss as a Secretary of the Stu-

dent Christian Movement, a

Chaplain in the 8th Army in

Italy, an industrial vicar, Arch-

deacon of Singapore, Archdea-

con of Sheffield, Dean of

personal kindness.

Wilson (two sons, three

daughters); died Tirley.

1997.

Unity 1965-74; Bishop of

70: Register of the Most

1951-58; Archdeacon of

Sheffield and Rector of

Leicester 1946-51;

sections of English life and the Lang to pay his first visit to establishment, both financial and ecclesiastical. His course geous and ingenious loundation of St George's House at Windsor for the discussion of the issues at the heart of the British national crisis and, incidentally, for the retraining of the clergy, was the crown of his work. He lelt a deep personal de-

votion to members of the Royal Family. At the same time he sported a "county" style and invited the nickname his critics gave him of "Royal Robin", appearing at times to caricature himself. He had shot with more members of the House of Lords than any other bishop. He was widely respected among the free churches. None the less his plans were frustrated. Woods came from a Quak-

er background, but his father and uncle both became hisbans. The Gurneys, Buxtons and Barclays of Norholk, and through his marriage the Wilsons of Kendal and the Peases of Darlington, gave him a confidence-inspiring inheritance. His own childhood was vicarage life with holidays in Switzerland, large houses in East Anglia and many cousins and contacts with the City. Cromer and Cambridge evangelicals. His father was a friend of

William Temple and John R.

Mott, the American ecumeni-Windsor and, finally, as Bishcal leader. One of his brothers op of Worcester. He was effibecame Primate of the Auscient, hard-working, able to tralian Church and another an preach a thoughtful sermon, archdeacon in New Zealand. with a deep pastoral concern He used to describe how the for individuals and notable family Christmas Day began with the children singing His vision of a church much "Christians Awake" outside more in touch with the develtheir parents' bedroom, and oping life of Britain, united with ended with The Messiah - they other Christian bodies and prewere remarkably musical. Robin and his sister showed pared to make the changes essential to serve industry and the their missionary zeal for broadcite with which he was espeening the minds of clergymen cially in touch, was imaginative hy calling at Lambeth and and impressive. He understood managing to take the isolated

Archhishop Cosmo Gordon

the hallet.

After Cambridge and the SCM, his experience with the 8th Army in the Italian campaign revealed "the minefields of misunderstanding to be lifted - largely relating to the Church". He shared the horrors - a company HQ blown up in a booby trapped farmhouse with all 24 killed. When the war was over he visited some of the parents. He founded two Chaplain Centres at Assisi and

Lignano, forerunners of St George's House. With his father, then Bishop of Lichfield, who flew out for an episcopal visit, he attended General, later Field Marshal, Templar in hospital, who had an injured back after a grand piano on the truck in front of his staff car had been blown up by a mine. The General received the laying on of hands and then told the Woodses that he was hit not only by the piano, but by buckets of ice and buttles of champague, "all parts of the Grenadiers' normal equipment", Alter demobilisation he

moved to the industrial parish of South Wigston, Leicester, After tour years he went to Sittgapore as Archdeacon and his Barelay background found its motier in the reorganisation of schoods and clergy training. His ecumenical sympathies and intelligent energy made him excellent at the cathedral. He did much to befriend the often isolated British commercial families, and achieved considcrable rapport, though he admitted to being shaken by being olfered gin and tonic in lieu of early morning tea at their homes at tiam. But the time was over for expatriate leadership, and Woods's most enduring work was the encouragement of the multiracial congregation at St Andrew's Cathedral.

Woods gave 23 years as Archdeacon of Sheffield, Dean of Windsor and Bishop of Worcester, Whereas Archhishop Fisher believed that the Church of England was in good heart. Woods was convinced that there were urgent problems; to his great credit and occasional unpopularity he devoted himself to addressing them: the alienation of the industrial areas, the hlight of unemployment, the Anglican' Methodist split and the decline in numbers and the inadequa-

cy of training of the Anglican cieres. In Sheffield he was a shrewd supporter of Bishop Leslie Hunter's strategy of Industrial Mission, partly inspired by the French prints unities, partly by Ted Wickham - himself a protege of Robin's father. It was a tragedy about which Robin Woods was undiplomatically blunt when, in later years, the closed mind of a sick and hadly chasen successor of Bishop Hunter led to the unjust sacking of tour of the Industrial Missioners and the collapse of the

At Windsor Woods founded St George's House to be a centure for Christian thinking not least about social divisions. He took advice from the Clearch of Scotland at Dunhlane, European churches at Thize, Bossey and Bad Boll, and enthused the Knights of the Garter, Prince Philip and many others, lay and ordained, He was determined and ingenious in raising large sums of muney, Still there were critics, Was Windsor Castle too élitist a site for a church itself suffering from an over-privileged image? Was it appropriate for retraining in intelligent public service?

A lay conference and training centre for the Church of England required much greater independence than the royal ecclesiastical and court traditions, where worship was stiff and paternalistic, antipathetic to radical and experimental methods of approach to the crisis of the Church. Archhishop Fisher and Bishop

Graham Leonard were able to defeat Woods's efforts as Anglican Secretary of the Andican Methodist Scheme. and it was difficult to appeal over the heads of the establishment from Windsor, of all places, to common sense in the parishes.

At Worcester and in the House of Lords Woods worked hard Archbishop Ramsey commented, "I did not know that Robin had ability as well as enthusiasm." He gave time to the needs of the unemployed, defended the consensual politics of consulting trades unions and was, no doubt, one of those reterred to by Francis Pym when he remarked, "Clergymen do not exist to make life comfortable for us." Like many of the Anglican bishops, Woods was out of favour during the Thatcher regime.

In retirement he worked for the Student Christian Movement, the Order of St Michael and St George (he published a book of prayers for ambassadors short of chaplains), and in 1986 published Robin Woods: an autobiography informative about the inside life of the Church, entertainingly at times "the Queen and 1" in style, and strikingly kind about those individuals who had defeated his plans.

His pride in the decision of a daughter and a niece to seek ordination as Anglican priests is a moving testimony to the Woods family tradition of Christian service in a developing church in a changing society. Robin's wife, Henrietta, and his family were remarkably close in a home where there was always music and painting and conversation, always with a sense of personal trust in the background. Rohin and Henrietta were perfectly matched and her support was unfailing and unobtrusive; their generous hospitality in many posts was always warm and unstuffy.



'Royal Robin' Woods, left, the new Bishop of Worcester, with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Michael Ramsey, in 1971 Photograph: Hulton Getty

### Sir Gilbert Longden



the alienation between large

Gilbert lames Morley Longden, politician: born Castle Heath, Co Durham 6 April 1902; MBE 1944; MP (Conservative) for Southst Hertfordshire 1950-74; UK Representative to Council of Europe 1953-54; Kt 1972; died 16 October 1997.

incidents which, by themselves, are judged irrelevant, but in accumulation become important. The Conservative government led by Harold Macmillan - to all intents and purposes it was still his government when Alec Douglas-Home led it for a year in 1963/64 - was beset by innumerable small problems, most of which are well known. Macmillan, despite his cynicism. was a man particularly vulnerable to rhetorical attack. As his troubles increased, Macmillan was hurt by three particular remarks addressed to him in the House of Commons, one by an opponent and two by supposed friends.

Jeremy Thorpe remarked of the relationship between Macmillan and R.A. Butler that

A government rarely falls for a "The Right Honourable Gen-Airport, and grasped him warmly by the throat." Nigel Birch, one of the three Treasury ministers who had resigned from Macmillan's government, recited to the House of Commons Robert Browning's memorable lines from "The Lost Leader": "Let him never come back to us, / There will be doubt, hesitation and shame, / Small praise on our part, / Never glad confident morning again!"

These attacks on Macmillan are well remembered. Less well remembered is Gilbert Longden's contribution after Macmillan had dismissed seven members of his Cabinet. Longden, with that dry irony of which he was a master. said that he would like to con-

invariably, an accumulation of ourable friend at Heathrow all about him were losing were as wide as his thinking was (Military Division). theirs". Thorpe had an evident interest in attacking Macmillan and Birch had a particularly personal interest in doing the leader of the Party down. Longden was a backbencher, who had declined office on at least two occasions and therefore could be considered by the House to be speaking in a disinterested fashion. So, his attack on Macmillan was all the more wounding.

Gilhert Longden was, throughout his political life, both unassuming and intellectually certain. Born in County Durham, he was educated at Haileybury, and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he read Law, He qualified as a solicitor in 1924. He worked for

hroad. He left India in 1936 and travelled widely, before spending a year studying at the Sorbonne in Paris.

On his return to England around the time of Neville Chamberlain's disastrous conversation with Adolf Hitler in 1938, sensing that war with Germany was approaching he enrolled in the Army Officers' Emergency Reserve. In 1940 he became an officer in the Durham Light Infantry, and in .1941 he was posted to the Far East, Though he was still a comparatively young man, his experience of foreign travel, and his knowledge of foreign parts served the Army well, but he was essentially an administrator rather than a fighting soldier. When he was demobilised

single reason. There is, almost theman met his Right Hon- having "kept his head while demonstrated that his interests and was appointed MBE his novel Sybil or The Two Na- one of the founders of the

Even before the Second World War, Longden had shown a serious interest in polities. Having been selected as parliamentary candidate for Morpeth in 1938, he failed to secure that seat in the House of Commons in the election of 1945. However, as the Conservative electoral recovery began, he won a scat for South West Herts in 1950.

By this time he had established himself as a serious Conservative thinker and writer. His book A Conservative Philosophy (1947) provided the foundation for an unlikely alliance - including Edward Heath, Enoch Powell and Angus Maude – which formed the One Nation Group, based on the thinking first annunci-

essence of this thinking was to be ameliorative in domestic policy and aggressive in foreign policy.

However, Longden was never afraid to change his mind. Thus, having espoused the

cause of the Arah nations for years, after the founding of the state of Israel in 1948, and having convinced himself that the Arab powers of the day were determined to destroy the infant state, he became an enthusiastic Zionist. At the same time, he was deeply involved in the developing post-war relationship with continental Europe, being at one time or another a member of the Council of Europe, the British Atlantic Community, the British Council and the Conservative

gratulate the Prime Minister on 1Cl in India for some time, and he enjoyed the rank of Major ated by Benjamin Disraeli in Group for Europe. He was tions in the 19th century. The Great Britain-East Europe Centre, and published, in 1969, two booklets, One Europe and The Future of Europe.

But Longden was a Commonwealth man as well as a proponent of closer ties between Britain and Europe. Thus, he was a vehement opponent of apartheid, and this, as well as his forward-looking thinking about the emerging welfare state, led him to be, initially, a supporter of Macmillan. Most of his dreams were to be unfulfilled. In 1974 he retired from the House of Commons. He was almost the last of a generation the character and the vision of which was formed by war and international interests; and he is worthy of a more than honourable memory.

- Patrick Cosgrave

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London Eld SDL, telephoned to 971-293 2010 (24-hour asswering machine 971-293 2010) or faxed to 971-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at £11 a line. faxed) and are charged at £11 a line, VAT extra. They should be accompa-VAT extra. They should blockly a daytime teleph

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Date of Ediaburgh, Masue, attends the Trinity House Civic Lanch at Trinity House, London ECX; and, as Parron, attends the 50th Amiversary Dimoer of the Royal Institute of Navigation at Plaisterers' Hall, London ECX, The Dulte of Mark, Governor, visits Lakefield College School, Ontario, Canada. The Princess Royal opens the Commonwealth Partnership in Medicine Meeting, Edinburgh; attends a Scotland Africa 97 Reception, Edinburgh University, opens a new laboratory at the Medical Research Council Collaborative Centre, Western General Inlaboratory at the Medical Research Council Collaborative Centre, Western General Infirmary, Edinburgh; attends the short installation ceremony to seven the gift of Honorary Microbership of the Merchant Company, Merchants' Hall, Edinburgh; visits the Non-Government Organisation Echilotics at the Commonwealth, Centre, Assembly Rooms. Commonwealth Centre, Assembly Rules, Edinburgh; and, as Patron, Callege of Oc-repational Therapies, attends the Diamond white Celebrations for Occupational Ther-py Education in Scotland, Queen Margaret

Changing of the Guard The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment the Open's Life Guard at Horse

Birthdays Sir Anthony Bamford, chairman

and managing director, J.C. Bamford, 52; Professor Gracme Barker, Head of the School of Archaeological Studies, Leicester University, 51; Mr Johnny Carson, television pre-senter, 72; Mr George Cohea, footballer, 52; Major Edwina Coven, HM Lieutenant, City of London, 76; Su John Craven, chairman, Morgan Grenfell, 57; Miss Maggi Hambling, artist, 52; Lord Hum of Tanworth, former Secretary of the Cabinet, 78; Mr Roger Jones, managing director, Woolworths, 60; Sir Archie Lamb, former diplomat, 76; Professor Si Frank Lawton, Emeritus Professor of Operative Surgery, Liverpool University, 82; Mr (verach McDonald, former Associate Editor, the Times, 89; Pelé, footballer, 57; Lord Remnant, banker and accountant, 67; Sir Ralph Riley, former deputy chairman, Agriculture and Food Research Council, 73; Mr Gerry Robinson, chairman, Granada, 49; Miss Anira Roddick, founder, The Body Shop, 55; Mr George Rylands, Shakespearean scholar, 95; The Earl of Shannon, former Deputy Speaker, House of Lords, 73; Baroness Trumpington, Baroness in Whiting, 75; Baroness Young, former Minister of State, Foreign Office, 71.

**Anniversaries** 

Births: Nicolas Edmé Restif de la Bretonne, novelist, 1734; Pierre-Athanase Larousse, lenicographer and encyclopaedist, 1817; Robert Scymour Bridges, poet, 1844; Douglas Robert Jardine, cricketer, 1900; Felix Bloch, physicist, 1905; Diana Dors (Diana Fluck), actress, 1931. Deaths: Marcus Junius Brutus, committed suicide 42 BC; Pierro-Jules Théophile Gautier, author, 1872; William Gilbert Grace, ericketer. 1915: John Boyd Dunlop, inventor

of the pneumatic rubber tyre, 1921; Zane Grey, novelist of the American West, 1939; Al Joison (Asa Yoelson), singer and actor, 1950. On this day: fonght, 42 BC; both Royalists and Parliamentarians claimed vistors Parliamentarians claimed victory at the Battle of Edgehill, 1642; the first ment of Great Britain met, 1707; 25,000 women paraded in New York to demonstrate in favour of women's suffrage, 1915; the United Nations General Assembly met for the first time, New York, 1946; Britain, France, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to end the occupation of Germany, 1954; Western nations agreed to allow West Germany to enter Nato, 1954; George Blake, serving a 42-year senience for espionage, escaped from Wormwood Scrubs prison 1966. Today is the Feast Day of St Al-lucio, St Elfleda or Ethelileda, St Ignatius of Constantinopie, St John of Capistrano, St Romanus of Rouen, St Severinus or Seurin of Bordeaux St Severinus Boethius and St

Lectures

National Gallery: Judy Egerton, "Hogarth (iv): Marriage à la mode".

Victoria and Albert Museum: Laurence Magne, "Les Ebénistes Français du XVIII siècle", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Christine Atha, "Francis Bacon: discovering the physical",

British Museum: Timothy Clayton, "Joseph Wright of Derby (1734-(797): the printed image", 1.15pm. National Portrait Gallery: Grace Robertson, "Portrait of a Decade: 1950s Picture Post", L.10pm. King's College London, London WC2: Professor Felicity Riddy, "Do-mesticity and Urban Culture in Late Medieval England", 5.30pm.

LAW REPORT: 23 OCTOBER 1997

### Question of principal home to be decided objectively

The question whether a tenant who was not in physical occupation of premises had the necess intention to preserve his occupation of them as his principal or only home for the purposes of section 1(1)(b) of the Housing Act 1988 was to be decided objectively. Ujima Housing Association v Aristh

and anor; Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Cazalet) 17 October 1997

The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal of the Ujima Housing Association against the decision of Judge Hitching in the Bow County Court refusing to make a possession order in respect of a flat owned by the housing association which had been let to the respondent under an assured tenancy within the meaning of section 1 of the Housing Act 1988.

The respondent had lived in the flat with his family paying rent of £31.50 per week until March 1995, when he had sublet it at a rent of £130 Housing Act 1988 and was protection of a statutory as- were terms of that subletting

hold tenancy within the meaning of section 20 of the 1988 Act. The association served notice to quit on the respondent on the ground, inter alia. that he was in breach of his tenancy agreement by subletting. They maintained that he was no longer occupying the premises as his principal or only home and had therefore ceased to be the holder of an assured tenancy. The judge found that the respondent had at all times retained the intention to return

Terence Gallivan (Devonshires) for the housing association: Mark Whalan (G.H. Gelbergs) for the respondent.

to the flat and had always

regarded it as his principal

home.

Lord Justice Roch said that the basis of the appeal was that the judge had been wrong to find that the respondent had continued to occupy the flat as his principal home within the meaning of section 1 of the the tenant who claimed the sured shorthold tenancy. There the assured tenancy.

per week on an assured short- therefore at all material times sured tenancy. Where a tenant an assured tenant.

Counsel for the respondent had relied on the decision in Lesley & Cov Cumming [1926] 2 KB 417 to establish the proposition that a subletting of the whole of the premises did not in itself destroy a tenant's a stricter approach to deciding who was within the protection of the legislation had been adopted in later cases: see Haskins v Lewis [1931] 2 KB L Skinner v Geary [1931] 2 KB 526, Brown v Nash and Ambrose [1948] 2 KB 247, Poland v Cadogan [1980] 3 All ER 544 and Jackson v Pekic and O'Brien (1990) 22 HLR 9.

It had been submitted for the respondent that the issue in the case was a matter of fact and degree for the judge. He had accepted the respondent's evidence of his intentions and the court should not interfere with his conclusions. The 1988 Act had, however, infroduced a stricter test for

was no longer in physical possession of the premises, the onus was upon him to establish that he was still occupying it as his principal home. That was to be determined not by the subjective intention or motives of the person claiming statutory protection. However, still to be have an assured tenancy, but by an objective assessment of his actions and

> The judge had misdirected himself in making a finding as to the respondent's subjective intent, instead of looking at the undisputed facts and deriving from them the respondent's objective intent. If the issue of occupation as an only or principal residence were to be decided on subjective intent, inconsistent and contradictary decisions would occur, and that would be undesirable.

In the present case the whole of the premises on an aswhich were of importance in relation to possession and occupation of the premises which. unhappily, had not been considered by the judge in his judgment. Those terms were quite inconsistent with the respondent's remaining in occupation of the flat as his principal

residence. He was financially better off than he would have been had he remained in the flat. He was neither in the flat nor entitled to occupation when the notice to quit expired. Finally he had left furniture in the flat which was necessary if the flat were to be sublet furnished, but had left no personal possessions as might have been expected if he had had the intention to return after a relatively short absence. On the facts, viewed objectively, the respondent could not have had the intention necessary to preserve his occupation of the flat undisputed facts were that the as his principal residence, nor respondent had sublet the had be maintained a sufficient presence in the flat to sustain

# A reminder to ministers: all children have special needs



EDITOR: ANDREW MARK DEPUTY EDITOR: COLIN HUGHES. ADDRESS: 1 CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF. **LONDON E14 5DL** TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171-345 2435

Classroom teaching can never just be about a child's intellectual development. Attainment depends mightily on children's health and happiness.

But teachers are not care assistants, nurses or social workers. They should have enough on their plates stretching and testing young minds; not all of them are up to that. There will, moreover, always be a category of pupil that demands too much attention - too much, that is, for the good of the other children. The test must always be the performance of the whole class. The Government is right in its central assertion, that teaching those with "special needs" in the company of their peers can enrich classroom life. But in its latest thoughts, published yesterday, it does not perhaps recognise, as acutely as teachers and parents do, that must be strict limits to a policy of integration. There comes a point, not usually with those with physical disabilities, when the presence of certain children in the classroom is educationally

disruptive. It is the teachers and beads, in conjunction with the parents of other children, who must make the call - not education bureaucrats or government ministers. Schooling those disruptive children must continue, to be sure, but else-where. We will always need special provision outside ordinary schools.

Because he is blind, David Blunkett possesses deep insight into special needs education. The pun is intentional. He knows at first hand how being defined by your disability is disabling. It is not political correctness to reprove blanket categorisations such as "the deaf" or "the mentally handicapped" and object to the educational apartheid they have endured in the past. Physical and mental disability is part of life; children who lack mobility or the use of one faculty can and must share the educational opportunities of their peers. As a rule, inclusion has to be the right policy - provided schools are physically adapted, teachers are given the necessary extra training, and their numbers are boosted.

Theo there are children who are emotionally disturbed. This is not necessarily a life's fate: children move in and oul of conditions that impede their educational progress. The Green Paper is right to seek to cut the bureaucratic jungle that has grown up around the process of "statementing"-identifying and labelling children with difficulties. But the administrative challenge is to ensure that such children can be provided for, if necessary out of the mainstream, and preferably temporarily.

The Government's inclusive vision for the schools parallels its thinking about social exclusion, and the imperative of pushing and pulling the workless into jobs, and inhabitants of run-down estates back into the social swim. But, as with social exclusion, it needs to recognise two great problems. The first is money. David Blunkett acknowledged yestenday that he is not going to get far without putting "real resources" behind these initiatives; but will be and his colleagues spell out when? Labour's commitment to Tory spending targets lasts until April 1999. Then what?

The second problem is machinery. Labour has, so far, broadly followed the Tory line on local education authorities: replace them where necessary, and generally prefer that the schools run in i own show. But when it comes to providing for special educational needs, the backstop local authority has to have resources and show imagination. Children with special needs cannot be left to schools alone. The Green Paper, intriguingly, suggests that government regional offices (which currently have no educational responsibilities) might become involved. Most parents will be indifferent to who provides, as long as the specialist teaching is there. And that has to include separate schools with bodies of dedicated, specialist teachers.

For once Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, talks sense when be argues that mainstream classrooms must be protected from that (small) category of children whose behaviour problems are disruptive. They must, as a result, be found places in dedicated special schools.

Of course, that is a palliative. In the long run some broad-gauge social strategy would identify children pre-school as potentially problematic, not in order to stigmatise them, but to enable preventive action - Head-Start programmes, in other words. We now have a reasonable idea of what works if those children are not to become candidates for criminal careers by fore becoming the fathers and mothers of a new generation of problem children. But getting all the levers pulled at the right time poses a supreme challenge to the Government. David Blunkett's appearing alone at the launch of his Green Paper, talking airily about wider social issues, was a bad augury.

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

#### **LETTERS**

#### Briefer bites back

Sir: Anthony Bevins (Comment, 21 October) lays waste to government press officers with the gay abandon of Attila the Hun, calling the Government Information Service (GIS) "a waste of time, space and cash".

I am a supporter of the GIS, but not an uncritical one. It has some weaknesses. We have been addressing them.

In the last few years we have improved our recruitment procedures and sought higher standards while the impositions on staff have increased as media outlets grow by leaps and bounds.

So what are the "whinges" from press officers? Precious few. There are natural concerns about the future, not because of a jobsworth mentality hut from a challenge to professionalism. Is the service to ministers good enough, how do we mesh with Alastair Campbell, (who has praised with good grace many of our efforts) are government policies understood by the media, and bow can we do more within the confines of the Civil Service Code?

Hurtling over the battlefield. Tony prays in aid a Daily we refuse to leak stories, don't reply to journalists promptly, feel queasy at spin and feave at 5pm. The fundamental flaw in all this is to treat tax-payer funded information officers as an independent force, accountable to no one save the journalists searching for exclusives.

No press Officer will act independently of ministerial wishes. We owe a duty of loyalty to the government of the day. Do we hold on to precious information out of vainglorious feelings of power? Rubbish. We ask ministers what they wish us to say bearing in mind their duty to Parliament. Spin? Journalists rely on information officers to deal in facts, to explain policy and to ensure that credibility is never put at issue. We try to make it interesting to gain the attention of the fickle, impatient and imperfect filter of the free media. We don't complain about it; it's a fact of life and a challenge many of us relish. And there is always a press officer on duty out of office

What is our output? In my own department since the election we have dealt with more than 400 press releases; 100plus newspaper articles; more than 350 ministerial interviews; the Government's first White Paper and many other policy documents; dozens of press

matched elsewhere in White-JONATHAN HASLAM Director of Communications Department for Education and

hriefings. And also answered

more than 50,000 telephone

calls. I am sure this effort is

#### Animal testing

London SWI

Sir: I looked at the front page of The Independent this morning (21 October) and was horrified. The sight of a laboratory rabbit's red, irritated eye, discharging down its face sent a cold shiver down my spine.

Why should animals be subject to such torture and ahuse? Because they are not humans?

Because they do not speak our language? Because they do not own bouses? Because they are not big enough to stop these people? Just because we know not what they think, it does not mean that they do not think or feel anything.

There are enough cosmetics on this earth, but if these cosmetic companies wish to make more and test them, they should test them on themselves. Small animals such as guinea pigs and rabbits can do nothing against us, so we should not take advantage of them. RYAN PENFOLD

(aged 12) Hemel Hempstead,

Sir: I congratulate you on an impressive front-page report (21 October) on the apparent weakening of Labour's position on animal experimentation.

The Home Secretary has. however, accepted all the recommendations of the Animal Procedures Committee. Labour's pre-election pledges were somewhat more visionary than the consensus recommendations of the advisory committee the minister inherited. The Government also inherited the cut in the "alternatives research" hudget. No doubt it will substantially increase this sum in the

next Budget round. The issue of an outright ban on cosmetics testing is complicated by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. If we were to ban the use of animals here we could not han the import of animal-tested cosmetics from abroad. That is not an excuse, just a fact. Since Labour came to government no licences have been issued for cosmetic, tobacco or alcohol tests, nor are animals

being used in Britain for weapons testing. We all look forward to a

world where we do not use animals in painful experiments. The real test of this government will be its performance on the European and international stage. Until Britain takes the very modest step of ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Animal Experimentation it will be very difficult for us to claim the moral high ground.

CINDY MILBURN **UK Director** International Fund for Animal

Welfare Crowborough, East Sussex

Sir: A sense a proportion is needed, and some background

knowledge helps. It is entirely appropriate for Robert Fisk to remind us of the horrors in Algeria. It is the duty of a good paper to put that report on its front page (22 October). It is entirely inappropriate and, worse, ignorant, to give front-page status to the use of 2,800 rabbits, guinea pigs and rats for testing cosmetics (2) October).

TERRIBLE

MESS.

What is striking to a medical scientist is how few animals are heing used. At the outside. 2,800 animals means that only 280 substances are being tested. more likely something nearer 28. Extraordinarily few substances are being tested on animals. If you suffer from allergies, and as many as one in ten of us do, you would be very grateful to know that the soaps or creams that you put on your skin are tested, and in the last analysis testing on animals gives a higher degree of

confidence than tests in tubes. In Holland the anti-vivisection movement puts its money Into a Dutch Platform for Alternatives to Animal Testing. Anti-vivisectionists here would do well to do the same rather than expecting us. through taxation, to pay for their guilt trips. DT MARTIN ROSENDAAL

### in black and white

Sir: For several years I have used, and paid the licence fee for, a black-and-white television set. Today I received a communication from the TV Licensing Office which asks me to confirm, by filling in a form and posting it, that I have not acquired a colour set or a video recorder; this is supposed to enable the office to update their records".

I am a busy working person and, I hope, an honest citizen; I find it at best irritating and at worst sinister that I am apparently required to take the time to confirm that I am not breaking the law.

MS BS PURCELL Norwich

#### Refugees at Dover

Sir. Is not the influx of refugees from Eastern Europe to Dover simply the consequence of the present government's adoption of a previous Conservative policy - that of failing to fulfil the pledge of free movement of persons in the Single European

These refugees can cross the European Union because they are in transit to the British internal immigration control at Dover. If there was no spen control they would not get pass the European Union control hetween Germany and the Czech Republic.

The Rev PETER M HAWKINS Peterborough,

Cambridgeshire

#### Strange influence

Sir: Patrick Cockburn ("Yemen points finger at Saudis over kidnappings", 21 October) reports claims that the Saudi government managed, from Riyadh, to persuade a tribe in the mou-tains of Yemen to kidnap a gentleman from Britain to destabilise the government in Sana'a. He doesn't present a shred of evidence, not even the conversation with the proverhial taxi driver. However, I feel it to be my duty to express my admiration for your reporter's touching faith in my government's supernatural

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GHAZI ALGOSAIBI **Ambassador** Royal Embassy of Saudi London W1

#### Tobacco attack

PRIESTLEY

YES)

Sir: When will the tobacco industry give up parroting its line that passive smoking does no harm to anyone (letter, 20 October)? For as many as 80 per cent of the UK's 3.4m people with

asthma, other people's cigarette

smoke is a major cause of asthma attacks. The dehate about passive smoking has tended to focus on its long-term effects. Although these are undoubtedly significant, the tohacco industry can, as a result, engage in often esoteric discussion about the levels of proof

Light up a cigarette in front of a person with asthma and the proof will be there before your eyes. MELINDA LETTS Chief Executive

National Asthma Campaign

### I have nothing to declare but my disappointment at this grim portrayal of a funny man



Recently, while staying with re- then, ruined the place. lations near Toronto, I was forced to go and see Niagara Falls, the sensational spot at which water from Canada falls into the United States, which seems to be set at a slightly lower level. The only prior impressions I bad gained of this awe-inspiring sight came from accounts given by two famous people who were both, oddly enough, homosexual visitors of the 19th century.

One was Tchaikovsky, who tells his diary that he tried to pick some wild flowers but had his ear chewed off for it by some early environmentalist, and who also made some surprisingly anti-Semitic remarks about the tradesmen who, even The other was Oscar Wilde,

who was more light-hearted about it, as you might imagine. He said that Niagara was the first major disappointment in a series of disappointments in the American marriage. Somebody asked him if it were not amazing that 80,000,000 gallons of water fell over the falls every minute, or some such figure. Oscar smartly replied that it would be amazing if they did-

Now, that is the Oscar Wilde I like to remember, the man who sparkled and twinkled and made men laugh, not the man trailing aesthetic

which stopped somewhere before the debacle -a film about his time in America, perhaps - but I will never see such a film, because the whole point of Oscar Wilde now is seen as the final tragedy, the martyrdom, the victimisation, the crucifizion without the resurrection. The fact that it was no such thing is seldom mentioned. Quentin Crisp is one of the few clear-sighted enough to

"Mr Wilde floundered between sordidness and an almost fatuous conception of beauty. He festooned the dung-heap on which he had placed himtheories or the self-created self with sonnets as people martyr. I would like to sec a grow honeysuckle round out-

film made about Oscar Wilde door privies... He need never have brought any legal action. He could have feigned to be above confession and denial. Of his friends some would have known that he was queer: some would not - would have been impossible to convince. All implored him to go abroad for a time. Mr Wilde took no one's advice. He stayed because he was a spiteful man and also because he couldn't bear to leave the stage..."

That was written in 1975 and suggests that Mr Crisp does not approve of Mr Wilde, This is pethaps odd, in that the two of them had exactly the same career, except back to front. Wilde soared into fame and fortune, then fell into

spectacular disgrace because of his sexual nature and ended up in penury and ignominy abruad. Crisp spent the first half of his life in obscurity, being spat at in the street for his wilful homosexual display, then fell out of disgrace, acquired

celebrity, and was forced to flee

to America to embrace fame.

But even now he has still not lost his distaste for Oscar. Here is what he says about it on page 222 of Resident Alien (published by HarperCollins. 1996): "I was questioned by Mr Evans about Mr Wilde. When it transpired that I heartily disliked Mr Wilde, Mr Evans was nonplussed. 'You have taken the wind out of my sails," he cried. I Offered to put it back

required.

London NI

"The thing that I deplore about Mr Wilde was that he never came to grips with how sordid his life had become. When the names of five or six boys whom Mr Wilde knew only in Braille (they were procured by Lord Alfred Douglas and mei Mr Wilde in darkened rooms in Oxford) he was still bleating about love and invoking the fair name of Mr Plato, who died a Greek philosopher and came back as

a spinster's alibi. Someone compared him with Gore Vidal, which I found strange. Mr Wilde was a gross human being trying to enter English society. Mr Vidal is

get out of society. Mr Wilde once said that there was only one thing worse than being talked about and that was not being talked about. He was a sort of male version of Madonna. All this discourse took place with us sitting on a small raised dais facing inward, in the middle of a restaurant full of respectable, middle-aged ladies eating toast and sipping tea. For incongruity, the situation certainly took a lot of beat-

Still, not quite as incongruous, perhaps, as the way Oscar Wilde is now being portrayed as a hero and martyr instead of as the man who flew, transfixed by the glare of his own publican elegant American trying to ity, towards his own ruin.

### Never mind the jokes, fat is a serious issue



\*CORNWELL EAT, DRINK AND AVOID THE RESULTS

Our first reaction is to laugh. Take yesterday's news from Brasilia, deemed wacky enough to have the announcers snickering on the Today programme. Fat people in the Brazilian capital, it transpires, will soon have specially reserved, extra wide seats in theatres and huses. "My father in law for instance hasn't gone to the theatre for 20 years," explained the city councillor who sponsored the measure, "because it's too uncomfortable and he was too embarrassed."

Serves the fellow right, too, we in the large (but dimmishing) majority of the girth-unchalleoged will mutter - before adding that of people are to be permitted to spread themselves over an entire row in the hus or a couple of stalls seats in a sold out theatre, then just make sure they pay double whack for the privilege. After all do we not agree with America's latest guru, Michael Fumento? Enough of this culture of victimisation, selfpity, and attendant politically correct nonsense. There's nothing that half an hour's exercise each day won't put right. Obesity is simply a health problem hred of over indulgence, which any individual can cure if he puts his mind to it.

Would that it were. Consider a couple of other news items of late - the tragedy of voung Kelly Yeomans who took her own life after school bullies tormeoted her for being fat and frumpy; or the equally self-inflicted death this week of a 30-year-old woman of norexia, end result of a dieting pact with her sister after they had been duhbed the "fat twins" when they were not even teenagers. No one could accuse Samantha and Michaela Kendall of not putting their mind to it. Laughter can be a pretty cheap shot.

The fact is that fatness is a product of our age as much as a single persoo's character flaws. Maybe it can in most cases be remedied with self discipline and restraint - but then so can most other of today's addictions. There are those who presumably enjoy heing fat or even grossly fat, much as other peoa day, or drinking ten pints of beer. At least as many however probably hate it. If not, why did Diet Coke with its quite repulsive flavour quickly capture 10 per cent of the US soft drinks market? Drinking Coke is great; hut being thin is even better. Such is the ethos of our times. The word itself is clothed in euphemisms: robust, generously

proportioned, even - at a stretch - extralarge. But almost never fat.

And yet the condition is epidemic. America, of course, where on current trends half the population may be ohese by the end of the century and 350,000 already die each year from diabetes, heart disease and other weight-related ailments. But let not Britain sneer at the land of the triple-Whopper, halfgallon soft drinks and suitcase-sized portions of popcorn. According to the World Health Organisation, no less than one in five of us is obese, three times as many as in the 1970s. Yes, we eat too much and exercise too little; the question, however, is less what has gone wrong, but why.

Overeating is direct product of the suc-cesses and failings of our industrial civilisation. Food, cheap and lots of it, is instantly and everywhere available, marketed by companies to whose financial advantage it is that we consume as much of the stuff as possible. And yet we are little the happier for it. We feel less in control of our lives than ever. Government, it seems, is no longer ultimately the province of flesh and blood politicians, with their regrettable but very human failings. Rather, we are just numbers and statistics in the hands of computers and disembodied corporations, mugs in a world where promise is always one tantalising step ahead of reality. Small wonder we seek consoling comforts like drugs, sex, alcohol, the nadonal lottery-and, most easily obtainable of all, food.

Yes, it would be marvellous if we took ourselves in hand. Get ye behind me, chips and bacon butties and fat free Doritos. But as we all know, it ain't that easy. Failing an iron will, there is always hope that fashion's wheel will turn again, that somehow Renoir nudes will be restored as pin-ups of the age. In Samoa, after all, 75 per cent of women are obese and oo less cherished for that. And what of the affection for Sumo wrestlers in Japan, land par excellence of the slender and petite?

But don't count on it. In the meantime, if Western society is to banish fatness from its midst, let it do so by looking to its strengths and not its weaknesses. Where we excel is technology, especially when a hreakthrough can be worth billions. If we can clone sheep and land probes on Mars, then surely capitalism can find a cure for fatness.

The latest and most promising candidate for this elixir is a drug called Xenical, whose trick is to prevent our hodies absorbing the fat in the food we eat, instead of merely blunting the appetite as do most anti-obesity pills. Its maker, the Swiss drugs firm HoffmanlaRoche who could earn \$700m a year in the US alone from Xenical, warns there are side effects, and vitamin supplements may be required. But unlike human nature, drugs can be perfected. This, logically, is where the future lies in the fight against obesity.

Ah, it will be protested, this is just a copt Ior unde potatoes. But who objects to the use of nicotine patches to kick smoking, or the unceasing, hugely expensive quest for a cure for Aids, both of them, like obesity, ailments of our times? And if such a drug had existed before, it might have saved not only embarrassment to the father in law in Brasilia hut the life of people like Samantha Kendall.



Learning lessons at a Muslim school in Batley, Yorkshire

23/COMMENT

Photograph: Azadour Guzelian

### In defence of Islamophobia



TOYNBEE **RELIGION AND** THE STATE

I am an Islamophobe, I judge Islam not by its words - the teachings of the Koran as interpreted by those Thought-forthe-Day moderate Islamic theologians. I judge Islam by the religion's deeds in the societies where it dominates. Does that make me a racist?

For I am also a Christophobe. If Christianity were not such a spent force in this country, if it were powerful and dommant as it once was, it would still be every bit as damaging as Islam is in those theocratic states in its thrall. Christianity remains a lethal weapon in Northern feel the same way about Judaism. Everywhere in the world where religion dominates over the state, that is a bad place to live. Religiophobia is highly rational

The plea by the Runnymede Trust for understanding and protection for the Muslim comenough. We are still a racist society and to be a poor, black, non-English speaking Bangladeshi woman in, say, London's East End, is to be not so much a second- as a third-class citizen. No doubt some of the racism such women suffer does spring from the fact that they are Muslim. But there is no hard evidence that poor, black, non-English speakers of other faiths are treated any better than Muslims. Racism is the prohlem, not religion.

The Runnymede report calls for a ban on religious discrimination, pointing out that people are often attacked because of their religious dress. But discrimination oo grounds of appearance is already covered by our race relations laws. If Runnymede had its way and outlawed incitement to religious hatred, I would not be allowed to write this now ( which you may or may not think a good thing). Many Muslims also want our Christian hlasphemy laws, mercifully almost defunct, resuscitated to cover all religions. But how could any idea of free speech survive a ban on criticism or mockery of what others think and believe?

cellent record on race, and who also has 20,000 Muslims in his Blackhurn constituency, spoke out bravely yesterday when he told the Runymede Trust that the government would not introduce legislation to outlaw religious discriminadon.

The report protests that Is- evidence, no cross-examination,

munity is understandable lam is caricatured as one monolithic bloc, when of course it has its moderates and extremists with a plethora of varying interpretations in societies around the globe. The report says that Islam is seen as "barbaric, irrational, primitive and sexist" when it should he seen as " distinctly different, but not deficient and as equally worthy of respect." This is not easy with a religion that describes women as of inferior status, placing them one step behind in the divine order of things. That is not

> equally worthy of respect. To be sure, it is unfair to hlame some of the moderate British Muslims for the excesses of many Islamic nations. But it would be reassuring to see them out on the streets demonstrating vigorously and vociferously for the lifting of the fatwa against Salman Rushdie, offering him their strong protection and support. The fact that he has been forced to live in solitary confinement all these years because of the threat from Islamic states is oot something that can easily be soothed away by describing that religioo as "equally worthy of respect". Should I, or indeed Salman Rushdie and his supporters, be

We watch the progress of justice under a shariah court in Saudi Arahia with unmitigated horror. Guilty or not, the two nurses have had no justice, however much we allow for cultural differences. No witnesses, no

the defendants not allowed to know the evidence against them in order to refute it, judges sitting in secret - this isn't a cultural misunderstanding, this is injustice. Is it racist to say so? Could we still say so if there was a law protecting religions?

The report also claims the right to state support for muslim schools. Although we are the most secular and irreligious nation in Europe, one third of our state schools are run by religions from Orthodox Jewish and Roman Catholic to Christian Brothers and higotted nuns. The state, bizarrely, is already paying for some unpleasantly extreme religious beliefs to be taught right across the spectrum - but oot yet for Muslims. That looks unjust, but only if you think

we should be egalitarian about the propagation of unreason. Ever since July 1996 the Secretary of State for Education has had the approval of the first grant maintained Muslim school sitting in the office intray. First Gillian Shephard, now David Blunkett, have simply left it there, pending. The proposal for a new Muslim school in Birmingham has passed all the hurdles and has received the imprimature of the has the Islamia primary school in North London. With a waiting list of 1,000, there can hardly be said to be insufficient local "demand". What is to he

The Rationalist Press Association and the National Secular Society were quick

done?

yesterday to issue a statement opposing the granting of state status and funding to any Islamic schools. They have passionately opposed all religious state education ever since the first religious school was funded in 1902. Protestants at the time protested about "Rome on the Rates". Now there will no doubt be indignation at "Mecca on the Rates".

The Rationalists have the only consistent reason for opposing Muslim schools: they are against all religion in state education. Yesterday they claimed Islamie schools "discriminate against girls, offer little artistic and physical education and serve to marginalise a community already seriously marginalised - as emphasised by the Runnymede Trust itself."

rk h., st

The US constitution forbids religious worship or teaching in state schools. Now is the time for us to follow suit. For once some are allowed sectarian education, there is no reason wby others shouldn't be allowed their schools too - New Agers, astrologists, Moonies or any other sect or cult with a sufficient number of followers. After all, if you really believe the stars govero our everyday lives, be taught the details of the movements and influences of the planets and the zodiac. If you think that's all nonsense but the Bible is the literal truth, be warned, for there is no satisfactory legal definition of a religion. A religion is just a cult with more followers.

### Nail-biting pensées from the literary heart of Gloucestershire



IOHN WALSH

Ive spent the last ten days in a state of chronic and helpiess introduction. As director of the Cheltenham Festival of LIterature, I've introduced at least Oliterary celebrities to checrg audiences. And I must present the 1997 Charm On A Stick Award to Alan Clark, following his performance, which climaxed, if that's the appropriate word, last weekend. He sat on a stage in front of 900 people and somehow contrived

to flirt with all of them simultaneously. There was nothing obviously seductive about it. On the contrary - Clark went out of his way to talk about serious matters, like European Monetary Union, the fall of Macmillan and the ahdication of Edward VIII. He was keen to display to the world the forgotteo figures of Clark the Historian and Clark the Economist, who lurk unseen within the more familiar figures of Clark the Bounder and Clark the Incorrigible Old Roue. He didn't repeat his bracing prognosis that you could solve the Northern Irish problem overnight by rubbing out 600 suspected members ("Tll gladly explain what I meant by that, if you give me 10 minutes," he told Simon Hoggart. "Nah." replied Hoggart, "We prefer the original version") but he had plenty to say about the Welfare State, "which is simply the redistribution of income from the enterprising and the hardworking to the indigent". His lack of respect for the shenanigans of the Tory Party ("the combination of Redwood and Clarke at the leadership election - if I were a shockable person, I'd have been shocked by that") was balanced by a corresponding failure to feel awe hefore the Labour leader: "Tony Blair has transitioned, to use a management consultant's term, from heing early Bill Clinton to being full-hlown Margaret Thatcher to finish as up-market Billy Graham". The hurghers of Cheltenham bought it wholesale. They murmured in rapture. How could

last election? Now if only the Chelsea & Kensington safe seat hadn't selected Alan C. they could surely have found a

And throughout all this stuff, you couldn't ignore an undercurrent of rampant pheremones, a sussuration of smut, that wove around the subjects of the conversation. It got everywhere, like Lida Jardine or the smell of paraffin. When Clark was asked if he used the Internet, and he said, "No I find it frustrating. It takes far too long to get anything up", the audience suiggered as if at a Benny Hill show. Emboldened by this response, a man in the crowd asked Clark "Has the new influx of woman MPs had a significant effect on yon?", and you could hear a few score hankies being stuffed into their owners' mouths. Even Clark's unusual, rather Edwardian, pronunciation of "monetarist" as "moan-a-tryst" had a Keatsian sensuosity about it, at least as far as the Gloucestershire next 2 words itals grande dames were concerned. Their collective desire was rewarded when Clark delivered a ringing, generalised hero-gram to the entire gender. "Anyone making remarks about the female sex is bound to sound patronising." he ventured boldly. "But I think women have superior judgement to men. On many topics, women are more bumane, they're gentler. Their good instincts haven't been re-

Ohhhhh, shivered (or so it seemed) the entire distaff side

they have voted Lib Dem at the of Cheltenham Spa. Ohhhh, stop it you awful man ...

> One intriguing presence at this year's Festival was that of a human chameleon, a man who kept turning into the people he was talking to. He came to every event which boasted a famous figure, asking questions from the floor, arguing with every author in high academic jargon, as if trying to incarnate their spirit. No subject, however recondite or unpromising, was safe from his Zelig-like interventions at question time.

> Thus Nicola Horlick, in the midst of a hlizzard of fluffy enquiries about her children's nannies and holidays and pets, found herself suddenly grilled from the floor about return-oninvestment percentages, mezzanine financing, 5.7 this and 13.8 that, Rothschilds, Solomon Bros, Lazard Freres ... You'd think it was some irascible nonexecutive director of Ms Horlick's old employer, S G Warburg, getting his own back. But scarcely hours later, Prof. Norman Davies, at the end of his lecture on European identity and its future, was abruptly counter-lectured from the carpet about the political elites and oligarchies that really run the continent. Finding no question lurking amid this I'm-a-historian-too tirade. Davies gestured wordlessly at the audience to ask

Having turned himself, briefly, into a financial wizard and a political analyst, the man (or at least his voice) surfaced again as a journalist, when Auberon Waugh and Keith Wa-

him something else.

terhouse talked to Christopher those oddly forensie-looking Silvester about the world of newspaper columnists. The same clipped, reedy tones, oddly reminiscent of Professor Moriarty in The Goon Show, could be heard in the auditorium asking, rhetorically. Why oh why have newspaper columnists now taken over from religious teaders as the only truth-tellers that ordinary people can trust? (It could have been Paul Johnson on an offday. It could have been AN Wilsoo on a good day. It was neither). The last I heard of this extraordinary person was at the end of a session in which Jeremy Lewis and David Pryce-Jones discussed Cyril Connolly,



Alan Clark

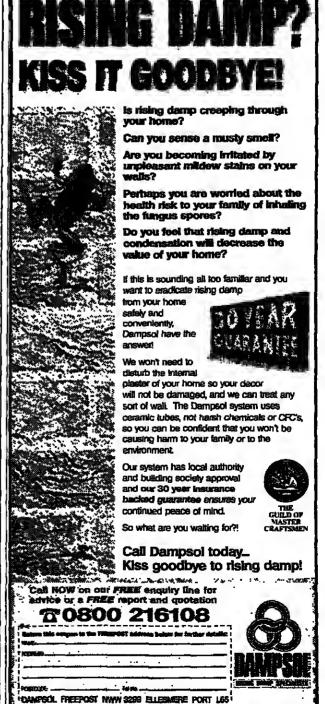
about whom Lewis has written the official biography. After some cursory chat, Mr Zelig clasped Lewis's arm and said, "Jeremy! Don't you remember me?". He had, it appeared, turned into Connolly some time during the previous hour ...

The hot topic of the week, amazingly, is "Nail-biting and what it signifies", judging by all

photographs of Gordon Brown's well-chewed digits in the national papers. A professor of psychology from Manchester University, with either a severe Desmond Morris complex or a hurning desire to create mischief, told the Press Association that Mr Brown's bitten nails indicate that he was feeling "ont of control". The habit, he droned, is "a reflection of stress and unhappiness" and clearly signified the poor Chancellor felt "damned".

Well obviously this is good news for those of us who have soent a lifetime tearing little chunks of born off their fingers for years and nibbling them to death. Biting one's nails may be a sign of frustration or auxiety or impatience among those who don't usually do it. But as a habit it's of no more significance than sucking your thumb. It's an accompaniment to conceotration, a necessary precondition of reading a book, a light snack, a nicotine substitute, a spur to thought. When I look at Rodin's statue, Le Penseur, with the thinker's mouth reflectively hrushing his folded. metacarpais, I feel I know exactly what he is thinking: he is trying to decide between the timy hanguail (middle finger, right hand) or the fat moony crescent that has just hauled itself above the horizon of the left thumb. Out of control? Stress and unhappiness? Hah! Mr Brown is in the grip of a hlissful addiction, and a fruitful relationship with his physical being. It's pretentious Mancunian psychos who

are ont of cootrol.



BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR, JEREMY WARNER NEWS DESK: 0171-293 2636 FAX: 0171-293 2098 E-MAIL: INDYBUSINESS@INDEPENDENT.CO.UK FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

# Order-driven confusion fuelled by Asian turmoil

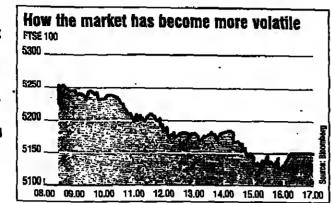
The Stock Exchange's new order-driven trading system had its first serious test yesterday as turmoil in Far Eastern markets spilled over into a volatile day's trading in London. Tom Stevenson and Stephen Vines report on the gyrations at home and abroad.

Shares fluctuated wildly yesterday as turmoil in Asian equity markets unsettled investors in the first serious test of the Stock Exchange's new orderdriven computer which started trading on Monday. Having for some of yesterday's volatilbeen 31 points higher at one stage, the FTSE 100 index of leading shares fell as much as 100 points before closing at 5148.8, down 77.1 points. rivatives trades.

The gloomy tone was set overnight by the Hong Kong market, which tumbled 765.3 points to close at 11,637.8. The Hang Seng index has failen by almost 15 per cent this week. Other Asian markets fell as well and in afternoon trading the bearish baton was handed on to Wall Street.

The "battle of Hong Kong", as dealers have dubbed the technique for dealing in the spreading economic crisis in the Far East, has seen the Hong largest stocks, settled down. Kong Monetary Authority, the former British colony's equivalent of a central bank, pitted against powerful international funds which have already forced a string of other countries in the region to devalue ers said it was impossible to their currencies.

maintain the local currency's peg with the US dollar, which has seen interest rates soar, has weighed heavily on a stock market whose heavy property



increases in the cost of money. to 34 per cent but picked up yes-In London, arbitrageurs atterday to around 40 per cent. tempting to profit from a There appeared to be a clear difference between the value of divide between the US dealers, FTSE futures and the index's who are familiar with orderdriven trading, and their British underlying shares were blamed counterparts. ity. The index regularly jumped Another reason for the market's poor showing was a fall of more than 10 points at a time as baskets of shares were 89p to 1,766p in index heavy-bought or sold to counter de-weight HSBC, which was hit by

The volatility of the market, which had been expected as a by-product of the introduction of automated trading, was exacerbated by continuing low volumes, although more shares were traded than at the start of the week. Dealers said the hig institutional investors were still sitting on their hands until the system, which does away with the traditional quote-driven

Investors planning to buy or sell large amounts of stock were reported to be sticking to the telephone yesterday with too little depth in the order book to satisfy their needs. Some dealtrade in some stocks, including The authority's fight to Hays and Railtrack, at some

points during the day. The proportion of trades in FTSE 100 stocks carried out via the automated computer rather than through market-makers exposure makes it vulnerable to fell on Tuesday from 42 per cent

der to protect the Hongkong dollar. Hong Kong is particularly sensitive to interest rate rises as the stock market is underpinned by property counters which are highly sensitive to movements in interest rates. Alone among its neighbours,

with the exception of China, Hong Kong has been immune from the currency falls which have taken a heavy toll elsewhere. Yesterday currency turmoil in South-east Asia deepened as the Thai and Malaysian currencies fell to new lows and even the once rock-solid Singapore dollar suffered its biggest fall since 1994. A spokesman for the Hong Kong Monetary Authority yesterday described trading in the local currency as "very stable and orderly with the Hongkong dollar emerging on the strong side of its fixed rate of HK\$7.8 to the US dollar.

However, James Tien, the chairman of the influential Hong Kong Chamber of Com-merce and a leading legislator, has broken the taboo of regarding the fixed link as sacrosanct and suggested it was time for a reassessment.

He was rebuffed from all quarters, including the financial plunge of more than 13 per cent. Brokers said yesterday that secretary, Donald Tsang, who sell orders poured in from all disaid yesterday: "There is abrections. Some came from big solutely no pressure on me to players who have taken short move the link in any way."

Nevertheless, market players are haunted by the prospect of Hong Kong plunging into the mess affecting its neighbours.

Some analysts think the selloff in Hong Kong has been overdone. "We must be getting terest rates soared to 11 per cent vesterday, compared with 7 per cent on Friday and a prime lendpretty near to the point where people are going to do some bargain hunting," said Howard ing rate of 8.75 per cent. These movements convinced the mar-Georges, a director at the South kets that prime rates were set China Brokerage. Ricky Tam of to rise, a view reinforced by Tung Chee-wah, the head of the Delta Asia Securities said a lot of blue chips were oow trading Hong Kong government, who at very attractive prices. said in London that he thought

Market report, page 27

Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, said

vesterday's figures were a special

case. There is no firm evi-

dence that the economy is slow-

ing, while inflation pressures,

particularly from the labour

On the other side of the ar-

market, are rising," he said.

Victim of its own success: Boeing is having difficulty adjusting to much higher production levels this year

#### Boeing \$2.6bn charge shocks Wall St Boeing yesterday stunned Wall encing in adjusting to these much high-er production levels this year had reached

Street and the aerospace industry by warning it was taking a \$2.6bn charge to cover production problems in its commercial aircraft division. Michael Harrison explains how the US plane maker has become the victim of its own success.

The charges will plunge Boeing into a loss for the third quarter and also have an impact on its profitability throughout 1998. The announcement sent Boeing shares down by 8 per cent, making them the biggest faller in New York.

Ironically, the losses now faced by Boeing are the direct result of the boom the aircraft industry is enjoying. Production rates at its Seattle plants on the Pacific coast have doubled in the past 18 months because of unprecedented demand from the world's airlines.

Phil Condit, the Boeing chairman, said the difficulties the company was experi-

unexpected levels": Boeing expects the production hold-ups that have resulted to knock \$1.6bu from its third-quarter earnings, due to he reported tomorrow. expects to incur further charges next year of \$1hn.

The shock news wiped \$4.25 off Boeing shares, sending them down to \$49.75 in heavy trading.

The production problems have forced Boeing to close its 747 and 737 production lines for a month while bottlenecks and supply difficulties with component manufacturers are sorted out and the thousands of extra workers Bocing has hired adjust to the increased production rates. Since spring of last year, output from Scattle has jumped from 20 aircraft to 40 aircraft a month. This year Boeing will deliver 340 aircraft compared with 220 fast year and is sitting on an orders backlog of 1,629 jets.

A spokesman said: "We are suffering from a surfeit of success. Airlines are or-

dering at unprecedented rates and we are struggling to ensure we can supply all the aircraft they need."

He said the problems had been incurred not so much because of the absolute levels of production, which were not at The group, which has just completed the record levels by historic standards, but be-

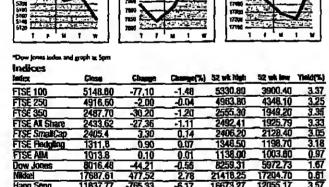
The worst-hit area is the production line for the new generation 737, which will account for the bulk of the \$1.6bn charge Boeing is taking in the third quarter. The company has orders for nearly 700 of the new jets but has yet to deliver a single one.

The speed with which production rates have risen has caught suppliers out and some have been unable to deliver components on time. This has resulted in severe disruption to production with large numbers of aircraft awaiting components. Boeing was also forced to make alterations to the tail section of the new 737, which delayed certification and caused the production line to back up further.

These problems have been compounded by a shift to a different production system and the strains imposed by a mass recruitment programme.

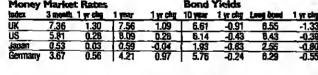
#### STOCK MARKETS

FTSE 100

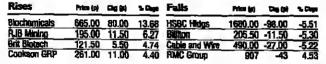


#### INTEREST RATES

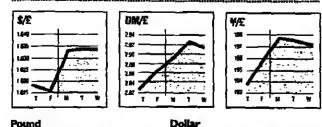




#### MAIN PRICE CHANGES



#### CURRENCIES



#### Sterling 2.4409 D-Mark 1.7834 -0.47pt 1.5260 2.9135 -0.9201 179.73 Yen 120.73 +40.16 112.36 89.30 \$ Index 105.50 +0.10

#### OTHER INDICATORS

| · #5 ps       | Close  | Clag  | Yr Ago |        | Indus  | Chry | Tr mpo | Red Sign |
|---------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|------|--------|----------|
| Brent Oil (S) | 19.68  | 0.40  | 24.66  | GDP    | 112.80 | 3,50 | 109.0  | 24-Oct   |
| Gold (\$)     | 323.25 | 0.35  | 384.00 | RPI    | 159.30 | 3.6  | 153.76 | Nov      |
| Silver (\$)   | 4.97   | 0.02  | 4.98   | Base F |        | 7.00 | 5.75   |          |
| www.blo       | omber  | g.com |        |        | SOU    | rce: | Sloom  | berg     |

#### Drop in sales blamed on one-off factors

High-street sales volumes fell sharply last month, but the drop was explained by special factors such as the Royal funeral. Diane Coyle, Economics Editor, reports on the debate about whether or not the Bank of England will decide to raise interest rates next month.

the overnight collapse in the

Seng index was the biggest this

year and was accompanied by

even bigger falls in other indices,

particularly the red-chip index,

tracking China-connected com-

panies, which suffered a one-day

positions in the Hang Seng in-

dex futures market. They stand

to gain a great deal from falls

interest rates could rise in or-

Meanwhile, interbank in-

the physical market.

Yesterday's fall in the Hang

Hang Seng index.

Yesterday's official retail sales figures kept City economists husy trying to figure out how much of the 1.9 per cent drop in volumes last month was explained by one-off factors. While there was no doubt that the funeral, the unseasonably warm weather and the tailingoff of building society windfalls dented sales, the experts could not agree what this said about the underlying pace of growth in the economy.

The Office for National Statistics said the special factors probably knocked 2 per cent off sales, implying that underlying volumes were roughly flat. This would have left the annual growth rate unchanged at more than 5 per cent, whereas the published figure showed it slowng to 3.7 per cent.

Mark Wall, an economist at

gument, John O'Sullivan at Nat West Markets said the drop in sales could not be shrugged off as a special case. "It is difficult to see the Monetary Policy Committee deciding that we need an immediate rate rise," he concluded. The pound weakened

a shade to DM2.91 yesterday. The difficulty in interpreting vesterday's figures means figures for third-quarter GDP, the broadest measure of economic activity, will be more than usually important. Most analysis expect the figures, due tomorrow, to show an increase in national output of around 1 per cent. More than that would up the

balance in favour of a quarterpoint rise in interest rates to 7.25 per cent in November. Even I per cent growth during the quarter would be well above the economy's sustainable trend. Retail sales account for twofifths of consumer spending and exclude items such as new cars. The Bank of England's de-

shortages and pay pressures appear most intense.

### Investors to be offered shares in Third World ventures

ment projects following yesterday's announcement that the Government intends to privatise the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC). which channels funds to ventures in some of the world's poorest countries.

Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Develcision might hinge on the pace of growth in services, where skill opment, who has championed

The public is to be invited to buy couraged to take stakes when its growth rate and gear up the terday that the privatisation shares in Third World invest- the business is floated on the stock market, probably in 1999.

The Government plans to flost a majority stake, probably 60 per cent, with the aim of ploughing the proceeds back into the development programme at the same time as freeing CDC to tap private sources of capital.

Lord Caims, CDC's chairman, said that with a new fithe partial sale of CDC, is keen nancial structure and access to that private investors are en- capital markets, it could double

balance sheet to invest an additional £100m a year.

The privatisation of CDC came into power. The Prime Minister, Tony Blair, said the CDC could be improved by becoming a public private partnership. The Government will retain a substantial majority golden share, allowing it to de- tor husinesses. termine investment policy.

There were suggestions ves-

could value CDC at £500m hut officials stressed that no decisions had been made oo how to will be the first since Labour structure its balance sheet or the

mix of deht and equity. The CDC has invested £1.6hn since it began life 50 years ago, pioneering the development of palm oil planter, tions in Sabah and Sarawak. It holding and will also retain a now lends only to private-sec-

> - Michael Harrison Outlook, page 25

### Train operators face fresh fines for call answering failures

More than 10 per cent of rail passengers using the national telephone inquiry service are still failing to get through. Randeeb Ramesh explains why, despite protestations from train companies, the regulator will fine them for not meeting his performance targets.

Train operators will be fined more than considerably better performance than £150,000 by the rail regulator after fail-

per cent of calls from passengers in four tember, nearly 20 per cent of all inweeks. John Swift QC, the rail regulator, instigated the investigation into the service after months of "awful" service. In the four-week period under scrutiny, nearly 13 calls in every 100

went unanswered. This is the second time the regulator has acted. In September, Mr Swift fined the 25 passenger train operators der" means the regulator's office can £250,000 after they failed to answer nearly 750,000 calls in a month.

Although the system produced a the previous month it was not good ing to meet the target of answering 90 enough. In the week ending 27 Sep- had put such a severe strain on the sys-

quiries - more than 240,000 calls - were

The system has been bandling more than 1 million calls a week - up by more than 200,000 on last year's figures - but has seemed incapable of taking many more enquiries.

The open-coded "enforcement orkeep penalising the privatised industry if it continually misses Mr Swift's larget of 90 per cent.

The train companies argued that the Southall train crash on 19 September

formance should be excluded from the statistics. Mr Swift did not agree. His officials pointed out that for the week ending 20 September the operators answered 90.2 per cent of calls.

On the day of the incident, when a passenger train ploughed into a freight wagon, more than 80,000 calls were received in one three-hour period. This is double the capacity of the telephone system for the period. Mr Swift did allow the large numbers of missed calls on the day of the crash to be stripped from his calculations.

However, his officials have taken a numbers of calls.

calls made by concerned passengers during the following week have to be included.

The Association of Train Companies (Atoc), which represents the 25 passenger operators and runs the telephone system, claimed that, without the Southall disaster, it would have

easily met the 90 per cent target. Atoc executives have also commissioned a firm of telecommunications consultants to investigate how emergency services and airlines deal with sudden, large

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OUTLOOK ON TURMOIL IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA. REDEFINING THE CHANCELLOR'S ROLE. AND NEW LABOUR'S FIRST EXPERIMENT IN PRIVATISATION

### Hong Kong crash gives London the jitters

Forger fears of a crash on Wall Street: taining the present parity. The instability we've already had one in Hong Kong. Yesterday's 6 per cent fall in the Hang Seng index means the Hong Kong market has now fallen 30 per cent in only two months, with half of that collapse occurring since the weekend. Having taken the weaker economies to the cleaners during the summer, the international speculators are showing a worrying interest in destabilising

the regioo's only relatively safe haven. How much the deepening crisis in South-east Asia matters was underscored by yesterday's tumble in the London stock market, its worst in almost two months. With ABB announcing job cuts as a consequence of the Malaysian government's postponement of its giant Bakun dam project, the financial meltdown is showing unnerving evidence of moving out into the real world economy.

There are good reasons why Hong Kong, which has held up so well in the face of the region's woes, should have started to suffer as well. As the most liquid market in the area, it was always likely to be the conduit through which pressures on Southeast Asian markets would flow. Investors looking for sizeable redemptions have litthe choice but to sell shares in Hong Kong,

The falls have been exacerbated by the pressure on the peg between the Hong-Kong dollar and its US counterpart, which is looking increasingly shaky. Since the Peking authorities seem to harbour the objective of devaluing against the US currency, there must be a question mark over the former colony's stomach for mainis worsened by the bigh level of margin trading in Hong Kong and the Hang Seng's heavy exposure to the property market. It is not hard to see why confidence bas evaporated so quickly.

With blue-chip shares trading on ridiculously low ratings, there is probably still plenty of value in Hong Kong. Unfortunately, valuation criteria do not seem to be the most important driver of markets these days and until the currency situation is clarified one way or the other. it is hard to see a meaningful recovery. Even then, investors' appetite for the region is likely to remain low for years to come.

#### Downsizing the Chancellor's job?

What is there left for a Chancellor of the Exchequer to do if macroeconomic policy is running on rails and there's no need or desire for him to fine tune the economy any longer? Gordon Brown has often stated this is what he is aiming for even if he's a way to go before he achieves it. To this end control of monetary policy has already been put in the hands of the newly independent Bank of England and the Chancellor has set clear targets and parameters for fiscal policy and the public finances.

Few even in opposition disagree much with the basics of this approach. If be succeeds in the goal of sustained low inflation growth, there is a sense in which it can be

said that he has done himself out of a job. Politicians traditionally aspire to be chancellor so that they can control the economy. What Gordon Brown bas been saying is that it is wrong to want to do that. So other than act as ultimate decision maker in the annual spending round and generally get his knickers in a twist over the single currency, what should he be doing?

A benign macroeconomic policy isn't the only thing that makes for a successful economy and it may be that future chancellors, now that the broad ontline of economic policy is so widely accepted, nationally and internationally, will need to interest and involve themselves much more in microeconomic matters - what have traditionally be regarded as the dull and boring areas of training, regulation. welfare, corporate taxation and competition policy. This may sound suspiciously like a formula for meddling even more than the Treasury already does in the affairs of other departments, but Mr Brown does have a point.

The deregulatory reforms of the 1980s, bold and adventurous though they were at the time, left the task of putting in place a modern economy only half complete. In competition policy and law, Britain is still streets behind the US, and although the new Competition Bill aims to correct this, there is still a big gulf between the aim of a vibrant, competitive business environment and the reality. The Government's key role in training and education goes without saying. Mundane, unexciting and time consuming these matters might

The Government

two days when it

energy-efficient

Correspondent,

generating schemes.

Chris Godsmark, Business

yesterday delivered its

approved another two

seem, but once macro economic policy is on the right tack, these are the things that future chancellors will increasingly have to concern themselves with.

#### A privatisation with a conscience

Fresh from sending BAT Industries off down tobacco road, its chairman Lord Cairns has been busy on another little spot of corporate restructuring. Yesterday he struck gold when Tony Blair announced that Labour's first experiment in privatisation will be to sell off a majority stake in the Commonwealth Development Corporation, which the chain-smoking lord also happens to chair.

CDC, a vehicle for channelling public funds into third world projects, has been plugging away at getting itself privatised for 18 months. The election result undid all the effort it had put into persuading Linda Chalker what a good idea it all was. But, by luck, Clare Short, her successor at what is now called the Department for International Development, took up the mantle with gusto. Provided time can be found this parliamentary session, then investors will be able to buy sbares in a publicly quoted CDC some time in 1999.

This will be quite unlike any sell-off seen before. The early privatisations of gas, telecoms, water and electricity at knock down prices were no brainers that guaranteed small fortunes for shareholders and managements alike. Had Labour wanted to ape the process there are still a few tasty morsels left in the locker like the Post Office, air traffic control and maybe even the Tube.

CDC promises to be quite a different animal - a sort of ethical investment trust bearing the personal imprimatur of the Hon Member for Birmingham Ladywood. No disrespect meant to Ms Short, but this is not going to be regarded in the City as an instantly attractive investment proposition. The very thought of palm oil plantations in Sarawak and sugar beet in Swaziland will be sufficient deterrent for many.

Under its present structure, the CDC required to earn an 8 per cent return on capital employed. Although the balance sheet will be dressed up to give CDC the scope to gear up and investors the incentive to provide equity and loan capital, there will always be better investment opportunities around.

This is not about maximising returns, however. The idea is to provide a vehicle for investors with a conscience who share Ms Short's vision of how best to help the poorest countries in the world. Just in case the privately owned CDC is inclined to forget its heritage, the Government intends to hang on to a golden share allowing it to set the company's parameters. The kick hack for Ms Short is that whatever proceeds the flotation raises will be ploughed into her development hudget rather than the general government pot. Given the nature of the beast, she may have to settle for somewhat less than the £500m being touted yesterday.

### Government set to consult on lifting of broadcasting ban on BT

**British Telecom could** gain the freedom to offer television down its phone wires next year, under proposals to be announced soon by the Department of Trade and Industry. But as Chris Godsmark, Business Correspondent, explains, another proposal being canvassed would delay the ending of the so-called broadcasting ban until 2000.

Walls

A team of Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) officials has been investigating the broadcasting han since shortly after the general election and is expected to publish a consultation document on the issue in the next few weeks. The current policy, formulated by the Conservatives, prevents BT from seeding live television channels down its telephone network until 2001, which is 10 vears after the start of the first cable television and telephone franchises.

The DTI is understood to have produced at least three options for the consultation paeper, the first of which mirrors Labour's pre-election policy to end the ban in 1998. The policy emerged with the conmoversial "deal" between BT and Labour, where the company would offer free connections for schools to the

information superhighway. The second proposal would restrict the liberalisation to parts of the UK not covered by cable companies' franchises. This would exclude BT from many urban areas, which have

Bupa, the private health

insurer, is in early-stage



Wired in: A trial in west London will only offer customers Internet services

the highest concentration of consumer buying power, though BT would be able to launch the service without a licence from Oftel, the industry watchdog.

The third proposal is likely to prove the most controversial, delaying the end of the ban until 2000. It would represent a two-year delay on Labour's pre-election policy and on the recommendations of a 1995 Commons Select Committee report, which also said the ban should end on a rolling basis starting next year.

The DTI is thought to have offered some concessions to the cable industry, after concerns raised by Don Cruickshank, the industry regulator. Cable companies said the 10-year ban was essential to justify their investment programmes. Mr Cruickshank told the DTI the ban, which applies to all telephone companies, could not be removed without a much broader review of broadcasting policy, a principle apparently partly ac-

cepted by ministers. The DTI had been expected to release its proposals within days, but there was speculation last night that the Prime Minister's office had delayed giving its approval. Barbara Roche, the telecommunications minister, was thought likely to mention the review at a cable industry conference earlier this week, but gave no bint about the consultation paper. A DTI spokesman said ministers were

still formulating the proposals. However, industry experts have doubted BT's commitment to a full-scale move into the entertainment market, following trials of the digital technology last year using its local copper oetwork. Some 2,500 homes in Essex took part in the experiment, which included video-on-demand film channels

and home shopping. Another trial will start in west London next spring, but will only offer Internet services. Since last year's trials, BT's sights have shifted to a collaboration with British Sky Broadcasting, taking a 32.5 per cent stake in British Interactive Broadcasting, the digital satel-

#### examines the latest pacity, of which about 100 setback for RJB Mining. megawatts would be sold back analyst. to the National Grid. RJB Mr Battle yesterday said

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#### talks to buy Care First, providers of integrated healththe UK's largest quoted care. Given controversy over nursing home company. Care First's management, Bupa is understood to

Bupa to bid £240m for Care First

have offered 150p a share in cash, valuing Care First at £240m. A deal is understood to be about a month away Bupa has already appointed from conclusion, writes Sameena Ahmad.

Care First yesterday put out a bland statement saying that it has received an approach "which may or may not lead to an offer being made for the company". Shares in the company, which have run up strongly in the last week on rumours of a possible bid, closed 23p up on the day at 138.5p.

Buying Care First would add 135 nursing homes to Bupa's existing 76 homes, making it one of the UK's leading which was criticised by institutions for driving out Chai Patel, the group's former chief executive, it is unlikely that Keith Bradshaw will stay on to manage the integrated company.

Graham Smith as managing director of its nursing homes business. Mr Smith was formerly chief executive of Goldsborough Healthcare, which Bupa bought for £76m two months ago.

Bupa has been actively and rapidly expanding its healthcare business over the last two years. Buying Goldsborough in August added 32 nursing homes and six hospitals to . Bupa's portfolio.

That deal has just been given clearance by Nigel Griffiths, Labour's competition minister. Mr Griffiths has accepted BUPA's undertakings to dispose of Goldsborough's 21 per cent stake in Independent British Healthcare, a hospitals group, by 31 March 1998 and so will not refer the acquisition to the monopolies commission.

Bupa spent another £68m in 1996 buying Greenall's 30 Countryhouse nursing homes chain and bought another 12 homes from Community Hospitals earlier this year. Keith Bradshaw, the chairman of Care First, would not

comment on the group's state-

ment. Several other companies

that have been linked to a pos-

sible hid for Care First denied yesterday they were interested or even talking to Care First. Pat Carter, chief executive of Westminster Healthcare said he was not interested in hid-

ding. Neither is Mr Patel. A source at Norwich Union, the insurance group, yesterday, said the company had not been approached and that its focus was on products not running nursing homes.

Nursing Home Properties, which sells and leases back nursing homes, said that buying Care First would make leave too big a proportion of their assets with one tenant. A source close to the company said: "We are always looking for assets, but given the alleged management problems, I would think it would be very unlikely we would buy them."

However, an insider at Speciality Care, owned by the aggressive US healthcare group Integrated Healthcare said that they would be keeping an eye on developments. Northern Rock, which owns the Regency chain of care homes said they would not be interested in a bid

#### Further blow to RJB as gas-fired power plants are approved

John Battle, the industry minister, gave the go-ahead to two gas-fired combined heat and second blow to the coal power (CHP) plants, one by industry in the space of PowerGen proposed for British Steel's Port Talbot complex and another by National Power for Esso's oil refinery at Fawgas-fired power projects ley in Hampshire. It hrings to and relaxed the rules on five the number of gas-fired power stations approved by Lahour since the election.

The Esso plant, costing £60m, would generate 132 megawatts of electricity ca-

evitably displace coal-fired generating capacity. The announcement of the projects came the day after Mr

Mining said this would in-

Battle ruled out any direct state help for RJB, owner of most of the former British Coal pits, which has yet to renegotiate most of its long term-coal contracts with the big generators for next year. RJB shares recovered 11.5p

to 195p after a 24 per cent plunge on Tuesday following a sell recommendation by a City

the Department of Trade and Industry would encourage more energy-saving CHP plants, which utilise the surplus heat produced during the generation process, by relaxing the licensing regime. The measure was planned by the previous government hut was

yesterday reaffirmed by Mr The DTI also disclosed that a further eight applications to build CHP stations had been submitted since April, with enough generating capacity to displace two million tonnes of

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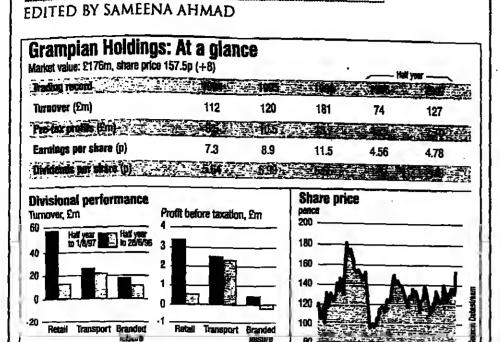
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#### Slimmed-down Grampian starts to grow

As is the fashion these days Grampian has shed its old conglomerate status, prompted by growing criticism from shareholders. Since it flogged off its pharmaceutical division to its management, Grampian's shares have certainly moved in the right direction.

And Grampian gave investurs more to smile about yesterday when it announced it was looking to repurchase up to 10 per cent of its shares. ft is a canny move given that debt chain is likely to continue levels are comfortable and the deal will enhance earnings as long as it can keep repurchasing shares at less than 200p. Grampian is left with a

Edinburgh Wootlen Mill (EWM) chain, and a transport and warehouse business best known for storing Scotch whisky bottles.

Hardly sexy husinesses, you may think. But analysts reckon the group should he able to achieve dnuble-digit earnings growth for the next few years, and that is without having to

splash out on acquisitions. The expansion of the EWM apace with another 25 stores Opening this year and probably 30 next. Grampian's policy nf opening shops in smaller towns and cities has met with

retail division centred on the success. The warehouse business is also going from strength to strength.

> There are a short-term problems. Warm weather in September has probably knocked sales of woolly iumpers and the strong pound is taking its toll on the number of tourists visiting its shops. That said, Grampian looks a solid long-term bet. The shares rose 8p to 157.5p yesterday as the group announced a rise in profits to £7.7m (£4.75m) for the half year to August. Collins Stewart forecasts full-year profits of £21.4m, putting the shares on a prospective p/e of 12. Good value.

#### Wescol proves it is as tough as steel

Wescol, the Halifax-based structural steel company, has given its investors an unnerving ride since the group came to the market in 1989. It was finated at the tail end of the building boom. The market promptly fell off a cliff, taking Shares in the company were punished earlier Wescol's shares with it. Priced at 85p, they sank like a stone to a low of just 7.5p in 1993. Many overstocking in the electronics industry, some of its rivals didn't survive.

But since a refinancing in 1993 the company's fortunes have been recovering and it has now recorded five consecutive years of profit increase. This included vesterday's figures for the year to July which showed a 40 per cent increase to pany is poised for growth. £1.68m. The shares, though still not back to their

One of the problems that has dogged the structural steel husiness is a chronic fragmentation of the market. But It is gradually consolidating and in June Wescol became the second-largest UK player when it paid £6.4m for Glosford Holdings. It now has 8 per cent of the market compared to the 12 per cent held by market leader Severfield-Reeve. The Glosford husiness is being integrated and, though some costs should be saved, the real benefit should be greater buying power. Wescol's order book is at record levels and the husiness has secured some prestigious contracts.

The future looks encouraging. The structural steel market is growing at 4 to 5 per cent a year and consolidation should work in favour of the hig players which can hid for the largest contracts. Assuming full-year profits of £4.5m, the shares trade on a forward rating of 13. Not a huge amount of upside left now, but still reasonable value.

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#### Signs of recovery at Cookson

Cookson has been through many false dawns, but yesterday's trading statement was the firmest indication yet that the huilding materials group is back un the recovery track. 40 per cent of the company. However, the group's interim figures in August, though hit hard by sterling, beat expectations, supporting printises from Richard Oster, Cookson's larger-than-life chief executive, that the com-

Yesterday's third-quarter trading statement float price, edged up 4.5p to a 71p, their high-est for seven years. showed overstocking in electronics is continu-ing to clear, with sales growth in the second quarter sustained, particularly in assembly equipment used, for example, to apply Cookson's adhesives. Though Europe remains tough and pricing is tight, margins are being maintained and business in the US is taking off.

Other areas also look promising. Demand for advanced refractories is still growing as fast as it was in the first half, engineered products improved further in the third quarter and precious metals is starting to contribute to profits.

Cookson expects to complete the sale nf its flame-retardant antimony business, Anzon, in the fourth quarter and discussions are under way to sell the horticultural business. All that could raise some £80m-£90m. With the noncore parts out of the way, Cookson would have some £250m to spend on in-fill acquisitions.

Analysts are looking for full-year profits of around £175m-£180m. The shares, 11p ahead at 261p are trading a forward earnings ratio of 15 times. That looks reasonably cheap.

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#### Pringle to cut 290 jobs as pound hits overseas sales

Pringle of Scotland is in discussions with unions to cut 290 jobs after the strong pound has hit sales of its woolly sweaters in Germany and Japan. Pringle, which is part of Dawson International, said the rising pound had added 25 to 30 per cent to the cost of its sweaters, which are currently being shipped overseas for the selling season next year. Pringle exports 60 per cent of its production. The increased costs had reduced demand by some 20 per cent, forcing the company to cut jobs. The company employs 1,193 people, mainly in its Hawick and Berwick sites in Scotland, and said the jobs would go from all departments. A spokesman said that redundancies were the only way to safeguard existing jobs.

#### Accountants merge

Casson Beckman's London accountancy practice is to merge with Baker Tilly at the beginning of November. The merged firm - to be called Baker Tilly - will have a fee income of over £40m, around 100 partners, and 11 offices around the country. Clive Parritt, chairman of Baker Tilly, said the merger strengthened its position as a leading middle-tier firm. "There is tremendous synergy, both culturally and strategi-cally, in merging with Casson Beckman." Baker Tilly and Casson Beckman are both in the UK's top 20 firms of chartered

#### Alldays signs Donuts deal

Watson & Philip's convenience store division, Alldays Stores, has signed a franchise development agreement with Dunkin' Donuts, the Allied Domecq unit, to open and operate Dunkin' Donuts outlets throughout the South of England. Dunkin' Donuts will be supplied to over 150 Alldays convenience stores. The chain also plans to open a number of stand-alone Dunkin' Donuts shops and a further 10 shopin-shop units. Colin Glass, chief executive of Watson & Philip, said the inclusion of Dunkin' Donuts "will help to drive our continued growth and profitability". Mr Glass said Alldays had opened its 700th store, in Thatcham, and was on course comfortably to exceed its forecast of 725 stores by the end of their financial year.

#### Agreed offer for Protean

Culligan Water Technologies yesterday announced an agreed 240p per share cash offer for Protean, which valued the comparty at £105m. Protean shareholders will be entitled to receive an interim dividend of 2p per share. Culligan said the offer represented a premium of 78 per cent to Protean's closing price of 135p on 17 September, the last dealing day before the company's announcement that it had received an approach which might lead to an offer. Culligan, a manufacturer and distributor of water purification and treatment products, is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Protean is engaged in the manufacture, distribution and service of water purification equipment and analytical and thermal equipment for scientific, medical and industrial customers.

#### WPP revenues rise

WPP Group said revenues in the first nine months rose over 9 per cent while gross profit increased 9 per cent in constant currency terms. Acquisitions accounted for nearly 2 per cent nf revenue growth. On average, sterling strengthened 11 per cent overall against other currencies in the same period last year and as a result reported revenues rose just over 1 per cent. Constant currency revenue growth in information and consultancy was up over 14 per cent, public relations and public affairs rose 1f per cent and specialist communications increased 11 per cent. Advertising revenues grew nearly 7 per cent.

#### Photobition bids for Novo

Photobitinn yesterday launched an agreed bid for Novo Group, which valued the group at £28.2m. One Photohition share will be offered for every 15 Novo shares, which values each Novo share at 52p. There is also a full cash alternative of 50p a share for each Photohition share. Photobition said its sales for the first two months of the current year were up 24 per cent compared with the previous corresponding period, and up 45 per cent on a like-for-like basis. The offer represented a premium of 26.8 per cent over Novo's midmarket closing share price on 16 September, the company said. Photobition is to raise £3m through a private placing.

#### German producer prices up

Producer prices in Germany during September rose 0.1 per cent month-on-month and were up f.4 per cent from a year earlier, the Federal Statistics Office said yesterday. Economists' forecasts had ranged between a decline of 0.1 per cent to a rise of 0.2 per cent month on month and a rise of 1.2 to 1.6 per cent year on year. Germany's producer price index stood at 105.1 in September, up from 105.0 in August and from 103.6 in September 1996, the office said in a statement. In western Germany, producer prices were unchanged in September from August and were up 1.4 per cent from a year earlier. Eastern German prices were steady month on month, although they were up 1.9 per cent year on year.

#### Mirror renews bid for MIN

Mirror Group Newspapers said yesterday it had renewed its agreed offer for the 75 per cent of Midland Independent Newspapers that it did not already own, following Tuesday's hid clearance by the Government. Mirror Group said the cash offer represented a 41 per cent premium over MIN's midmarket closing share price on 16 June, before the initial hid was launched. The hid values the company as a whole at £297m, MIN announced profit before tax and exceptionals for the six months to the end of June of £13.6m. and an interim dividend of 2p per MIN share. The board of MIN has proposed a second interim dividend of 3p per MIN share.

#### ITC chief talks of wider role

Sir Robin Biggam, chairman of the Independent Television Commission, yesterday made a bid to change public perception of the television watchdog, by saying that the ITC dealt with economic regulation as well as programming issues. His comments, at the European Cable Communications conference, will be seen as another episode in the battle between the ITC and Oftel, the telecoms regulator, for control over communications regulation. The Government is reviewing the regulatory structure of the media industry, although the creation of a single monolithic regulator has been ruled out.

#### COMPANY RESULTS Pre-tax £ Dividend rap Patroleum (I) -0.61m (-0.33m) -0.106p (-0.085p) nii (-) 127m (121m) 7.70m (6.88m) 4.780 (4.100) 2100 (1.510) 38.1m (26.7m) | 1.68m (1.20m) 3.5p (2.5p) Pescal Group (F)

# Shareholders attack board at WH Smith annual meeting

The WH Smith board faced hostile questions at the company's annual meeting in London yesterday. Questioners focused on the abrupt departure of the former chief executive, Bill Cockburn, and the search for his replacement. But the meeting ended with a protest by staff of the WH Smith News division. Nigel Cope, City

Correspondent, reports.

Shareholders concentrated initially on the lacklustre performance of WH Smith and the problems caused by the sudden departure of Mr Cockburn, who left in the summer. One shareholder said: "f don't like. quitters and I was very disappointed in the way he has come and gone." The shareholder then added that in newspaper pictures the new chief executive Richard Handover "looked tired hefore he started".

In response, Smith's chair-man, Jeremy Hardie, said of Mr Cockburn's decision to leave: "I was disappointed but you cannot glue people to the floor. We have no contract of slavery here." He added that he was confident Mr Handover was "the right person for the

Another shareholder said agencies.

the manner of the company's search for a successor "was something less than desirable". He asked whether the apparent indecision over who was the best candidate would be reflected by a resignation from the board.

Martin Taylor, the chief executive of Barclays Bank who heads WH Smith's nominations committee, said that the committee had known "quite soon" that Mr Handover was the right person for the joh but that it was important to seek benchmarks from outside the company. A former journalist, he went on to criticise the Press for making too much of

the story. Though Mr Hardie and Mr Handover handled most of the meeting calmly, the gathering became noisy in the final stages when representative of employees of the Smith's news division in Croydon launched a stinging attack on the board.

Jason Stentiford, the workers' union representative who had bought shares to attend the meeting, said the London division of WH Smith news was "on a knife edge" and struggling against competitors. He said workers were being forced to take pay cuts in order to keep their jobs.

Another worker said the Croydon news depot had been raided last week by police and officers from the Department of Social Security, who arrested suspected "illegal immigrants and dole queue cheats" whn had been employed through

The employee claimed that "people were hiding under benches and two Russian fellas tried in get in the back of my van". He added: "The whole thing was a shambles and I was ( ashamed to be associated with WH Smith." Mr Hardie brought order to the meeting by refusing to take mare ques-

tions on the matter. The meeting was prefaced by an upbeat trading statement from the Smith's. ft showed that in the 20 weeks to 18 October group sales were up by 8 per cent on a like-for-like basis on the same period last year.

This included a 5 per cent gain in the core WH Smith retail chain, which has been at the root of Smith's problems. The figure included a 1 per cent up-lift from the introduction of a loyalty card earlier this year. Waterstone's recorded a 9 per cent like-for-like sales uplift, while Virgin-Our Price sales were 10 per cent ahead.

Mr Handover said: "f am encouraged by the start to the year, although we still have much work to do, especially with the high street stores." The trading update lifted the shares 6p to 409.5p.

Analysts said the figures were encouraging. The company's top directors will emhark on a series of meetings with institutional investors tomorrow. They will provide them will fuller details of the planned restructure which includes the demerger of Waterstone's and the sale of the music interests including Virgin-Our Price.

### Insurers back down over use of genetic tests

rnaking a surprise climb- the insurance industry for disdown over their right to demand the results of genetic tests after pressure from the Data Protection Registrar, reports Andrew Verity.

Leaked documents from the Association of British Insurers (ABI) reveal that insurers have hacked away from the right to demand genetic test results in all cases. The documents also show that insurers will relioquish their right to "cherrypick", offering lower life insurance premiums to those who can prove, using genetic test results, that they stand less chance of dying young.

The documents, in the form of a draft code of practice for ABf members, propose that all applications for life insurance worth less than £100,000 will be considered without demanding genetic data.

Previously, insurers had insisted that they must know genetic test results even for policies worth less than this. But they promised they would not be used to turn away applicants for insurance.

This stance drew accusations from MPs and doctors that insurers would create a "genetic underclass" of people turned down for life insurance because of a faulty gene which may never even affect their

The House of Commons select committee on science and

Insurance companies are technology has also slammed regarding the importance of genetic tests to medical science. It said people would be deterred from taking part in genetic research for fear of being turned down when they applied for insurance.

The ABI has now changed its practice under pressure from the Data Protection Office, which questioned the right of an insurance company to hold genetic data which was not being used for a specific purpose.

The Data Protection Registrar insisted that the data should not be kept on computer, even if it was disregarded when deciding whether to accept an insurance application.

Until now, insurers have

raised the spectre of bankruptcy unless they can see all genetic data. Actuaries have claimed that customers whn know they will die early would be given an incentive to take out giant life assurance policies, triggering a rash of expensive claims. But some insurers, such as Standard Life, have relinquished their right to demand any genetic data, no matter how large the policy. Assistant general manager Peter Robertson believes the dangers have been overplayed.

Mr Robertson said: "In the past two months we have underwritten approximately 80,000 policies. Of those we have only seen 14 cases where someone might have had a genetic test. Only one, who had already contracted Huntington's disease, was turned

#### Investment performances under review

The City's new regulator, which will he launched and christened next Tuesday, is expected to help protect investors by forcing companies to give mure information on poorly performing savings schemes.

The new regulator is expected to propose wide-ranging changes to a pivotal reform introduced in early 1995 designed to allow investors to compare savings schemes from different investment firms.

The reform, called "hard disclosure", was intended to stimulate competition between investment firms by disclosing to customers the effect of the firms' charges on the products they bought. But one of the heads of the

new regulator, Phillip Thorpe, argues the regime is so complicated that most investors cannot compare prices.

Mr Thorpe, who will head consumer relations at the new regulator, said: "Right now the question of disclosing performance is very much a commercial matter.

"One of the things that ought to be expected is that proper like-for-like comparisons are possible." In particular, while insur-

ance companies and investment managers must disclose their charges, they need not disclose poor investment perfor-The cheapest charges reduce

the growth of investments by just 1 per cent a year. Yet the poorest performing

investments frequently reduce that growth by 5 per cent.

- Andrew Verity People & Business, page 28

#### Asda ruled out as bidder for Etam

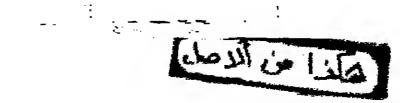
City analysts yesterday dismissed suggestions that Asda, the supermarket group, might be interested in bidding for Etam, the struggling clothing retailer. Though Asda refused to comment on what it described as "market rumour" one analyst said Asda would not be interested in buying a high street chain with high rents and a weak brand.

George range of clothing into the UK's second largest clothing brand after M&S. But its strategy is to use large stores where it can affer a wide product range using systems that henefit from economies of scale. One analyst said: "The George brand needs to be out of town and it needs to be twinned to Asda."

Etam announced last week Asda is keen to build its that it was in talks that may lead

to an offer. Three companies have tabled proposals with New Look, the privately-owned fashion chain tipped as the most likely huyer. Etam is due to report its results on 6 November and is expected to make a statement on the sale by then.

New Lonk has admitted that it is seeking a stock market listing. It attempted to float in 1994 but failed due to poor market conditions.



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# Perplexed traders want changes to order-driven system



DEREK PAIN STOCK **MARKET** REPORTER OF THE YEAR

MARKET REPORT

Pressure is growing on the Stock Exchaoge to make changes to its order-driven system, introduced on Monday.

The volatility of share prices, the wide spreads on the order book and the appearance of spooky trades, such as a huy order for 19 RMC. created confusioo and irritatioo, fuelling demands that changes should be agreed over the weekeod and put in force

Around 40 per cent of Footsie trading yesterday was completed on the order book with the rest handled by

It seems US institutions, already familiar with the system, are conducting most of their business in accordance with the ocw order but there is a distinct reluctance oo the part of British players to get

Traders complained that it its hest it was up 31.7 points, that the shares were destined tralia and New Zealand will be was often impossible to deal in reflecting New York's to hit 1,400p. Standard Charsocked into the maelstrom Footsie shares. One cited 500,000 trades in Hays and Railtrack, because of the lopsided nature of the system.

Building materials group RMC was giveo a screeo closing price of 907p, the level of a 2,650 order-driven trade just before the market closed. At the same time a 160,000 trade at 920p was recorded; so were change should address the a 20,000 trade at 933.5p and an 8,434 trade at 908.8p.

Because of the price volatility, frictioo is often occurriog between broker and clieot over the prices at which trades are completed: prices move so quickly, so steeply that many a broker is baving a hard time justifying the price he

overnight strength. By mid afternoon it was down 100.4; at the close it was off 77.1 at 5,148.8.

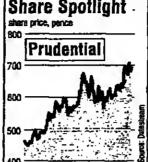
Most reckoned the fall should have been no more than 20 points; indicating the confusioo over order-driveo trading and closing prices.

It is felt the Stock Exproblem of maverick trades. The 19 RMC order should not have appeared; the minimum deal is £4,000. One suggestion is that the smallest trade should he lifted to 10,000

Hong Koog worries were evideot in stock market trading. With the former colony's shares again in retreat, evasive Footsie underlined their action was taken with HSBC dilemma; movements were tumbling 89p to 1,766p and

tered was caught by the wall of worry, giving up 30p to 716p. Cable & Wireless lost 27p to named and shamed over pen-

Warnings that Hong Kong interest rates will be forced higher and speculation of financial problems in Pacific Rim countries are adding to the disarray. Fears that Aus-



sion mis-selling, was the fourth

best Footsie performer - at least judging by the closing prices appearing oo the screen. The shares were shown up 12.5p at 697p. Amersham International,

Prudential Corporation,

oow Nycomed Amersham, rose a further 80p to 2,500p. Cookson, with an as-

expected trading statement, rose 11p to 261p. An analysts meeting today may have aroused much of the interest. Vodafone was hit by US selling, off 5.5p to 352.5p, and SmithKline Beecham suffered a 26p reverse to 582p when

ferred Zeoeca, off 10p at

Lehman Brothers said it pre-

ment from leisure goods group

Hawtin lowered the shares

5p to 27.75p but Winchester

MultiMedia gained 13p to

101.5p on the reported success

rose 7p to 129.5p on far-

fetched speculation of a bid

from Asda, up 1p to 155.5p.

jumped 39p to 238p as US

group Culligan produced a

240p cash offer and picked up

7 per cent in the market. Care

First, the troubled oursing

homes group, improved 23p to

138.5p as the presence of a

possible predator was re-

vealed. Another in takeover

sights, Premier, a recruitment

chain, jumped 43p to 215.5p.

ing recruitment and training

ahead of a UBS conference on

services, rose 17p to 249p

Corporate Services, offer-

Etam, the fashion chain,

Protean, an engineer.

of its film, Shooting Fish.

والمرابع والمستوار والمستقاف ويعتهض والمتعاض والمستقالية والمستواد والمتعارض والمتعارض

Rarely traded Gresham House enjoyed a day in the limelight. The shares rose 8p to 22p, highest for five years. The group has the dobious distinction of being the first investment trust ever to have a negative value. It is slowly recovering and has just declared its first dividend since 1990. The trust owns commercial property in and around Liverpool and an odd assortment of shares. It is, however, unlikely to

TAKING STOCK

recapture its glory days; 10 years ago, on Black Monday, the shares were riding at a 650p peak.

Incepta, the acquisitive marketing and public relations group, is set to achieve profits of £5.3m this year against £1.6m last time. say stockbroker Beeson Gregory. Next year's out-turn should be around £6m. The shares shaded to 22p.

source: Bloomberg

### the business support industry. often more than 10 points. At forecasts going the rouods NDJFMAMJJASD A downbeat trading state-The Y16 P/ECado 1.3 1.0 785 Prices are in seering except where stated. The yield is the latest twelve months' declared 1.0 2.1 206 lidend as a percentage of the share price. The price/carvings (P/E) rado is the shareprice 1.0 2.1 206 lidend as a percentage of the share price. The price/carvings (P/E) rado is the shareprice 1.0 2.1 207 deviated by last year's earnings per share, excluding excaptions of the price of the share price. The price/carvings (P/E) rado is the shareprice 1.0 2.1 207 deviated by last year's earnings per share, excluding excaptions of the price The Independent Teleshare - Tel. 0891 - 201 200 To access Real-Time Stare Prices, 24 hours a day, call 0691 - 261 200. war the current FTSE 100 Index followed by a Stock Market Summary Report. To get a Membership Number to set-up your Portfolio facility. | 729-8288 (during business hours). For help with the service, including the Portfolio facility, Banks, Retail 769 (TIS pk, London ECZA 4P). | March | Marc Gilts index 99,59x -0.05 | Section | 1975 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 | 1976 9.99m Westport Grp 9.87m Lloyds TSB 9.61m Centrics 8.75m Gen Bec Gas Distribution 16 95 Canno. 271 Ed BG BT offers 20% discounts | The color of the | 200 | 4.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1 ## 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That's a safe investment. Freefone 0800 800 800. 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### The evidence of a slowdown is thin: interest rates need to rise



DIANE COYLE ON THE NEED TO KEEP THE LID ON INFLATION

Once upon a time all the City's teenage scribblers were looking out for the first signs of the green shoots of ecocomic recovery. Five years on, and many of the still-youthful analysts are eager to spot the falling leaves of autumn. Each piece of news is seized and scrutinised for evidence that the slowdown has started.

Even last week's unemployment figures gave the hrownflawed claimant count measure, jnhlessness fell to the widely trusted survey measure, it fell to the lowest for seven years. The difference between the two was accounted for by the fact that more women have economy and oumber of jobs at the lowest for nearly two the private sector had created

nearly 700,000 oew jobs. Were the figures, along with others showing a record num-

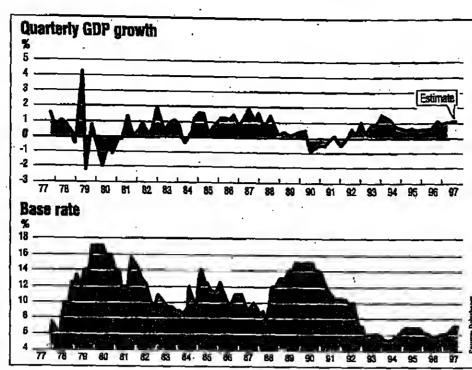
signs of slowing." This is a spectacular case of seeing the world through grey-tinted spectacles. For the British economy has oot been in such good shape for decades. GDP has increased every quarter since mid-1992, and at a far steadier pace than in the last recovery. The jobs market is expanding to the extent that skills shortages are re-emerging. Figures tomorrow are expected to show GDP growth at an annualised rate of 4 per cent or more in the

July-September quarter. Even the supposed weak spot, exports, which everybody expected to be hammered by the strong pound, are still growing. There's no doubt manufacturing is sluggish, but it is nowhere near the recessionary doldrums and besides, it is dwarfed by the rest of the economy.

Most of the economic forecasts emerging from the City actually reflect this reality in a way that the scribblers' rhetoric does not. The average shows growth slowing from 3.5 per cent this year to 2.5 per cent next year. Only a handful see GDP growing next year by more than the 2.25 per cent the Treasury uses as an estimate of the leaf tendency an excuse. On the sustainable trend. So even if the were deterred from raising incycle is near its peak and growth slows next year, 1998 will mark lowest for 17 years. On the more the sixth year that the British that the economy is slowing. economy has expanded by more

than its long-run average. inflating. The reason it matters that affer the slightest hint the entered the workforce as the that so many commentators economy might just be starting are talking down the economy have grown, leaving male un- is that there is a danger of the in memployment claims last employment no both measures Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) faildecades. In the year to August ing to raise interest rates month. The CBI and British Reecough to keep the lid oo tail Coosortium surveys for future inflation.

ber of unfilled vacancies and a Bank is naturally alert to pub-3.3 per ceot johless rate in the lic opinion. Its new role can only South-east, taken as a sign of the be sustained if it wins the bearts strength of the economy? Why, and minds of the people. Techoo. One rival oewspaper even nically, it also has a looser inannounced: "Economy shows flation target than under the last



government. The aim is now a Committee bought the argurange of 1.5 to 3.5 per cent, with either end acceptable to the Chancellor, rather than the that the evidence did not point previous target of "2.5 per cent or less". But what a waste of a five-year attempt to build credibility it would be if the Bank Richard Jeffrey, chief economist terest rates early enough because of a climate of opinion

The autumnal chorus of City economists is indeed urging There is a catch, of course, the Bank to focus on the bits of and that is the prospect of month-by-month information to slow - like that 27,800 drop month, because it is less than the 49,800 drop the previous September retail sales are also With its new responsibility dragooned as evidence, even for interest rate policy, the though oeither has a clear link with official figures for retail sales volumes. And the clinching argument is thought to be

> the fact that inflation has oot started to accelerate.

Interest Rates

ment? Its last published minutes, for September, concluded "conclusively" in either direction, and it also left interest rates unchanged this month. But as at Charterhouse Tilney and a robust defender of the string economy view, puts it: "Once the evidence is conclusive, my

the anticipation of events." Many other City economists would loudly disagree. Bot their own forecasts point to the target measure of inflation heading up by the end of oext year. The average is 3 per cent, near the top of the Chancellor's range. The lags are such that if the Bank does not raise interest rates again this year, inflatioo

mum could set interest rates.

The art of economic policy is in

slowdown in the recent eco-The cost of borrowing has, after I May. But a hint is not enough Bank of England belatedly Has the Monetary Policy if the inflation target is to be met slams on the brakes.

over time. Whatever the plethora of surveys claim, the hard figures show a buoyant economy.

There is more windfall spending to come, too. The Office for National Statistics reckons that about £500m of the £36bn has shown up in higher retail sales so far. A hit more will have gone into the housing market. There is a lot left burning holes in peoples' bank accounts. As for the survey predicting that only £4bn would be spent altogether, what would anybody say to a researcher asking if they were going to be sensible and save nr go on an irresponsible spending spree? We all mean to spend less than we do.

Not even the severest hawk would claim that there is a risk of returning to double-digit inflation. It is a matter of raising interest rates to perhaps 7.5 per will breach the target in 1999. ceot or 8 per cent this cycle -If there has been a hint of a less than half their peak in previous business cycles. But if they comic statistics, it's about time. do not go up soon, the false slowdown will be supplanted by all, gone up four times since a genuine recession when the PEOPLE & BUSINESS

PATERSON



Talk about Daniel entering the lions' den. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has agreed to give this year's Spectator lecture in a couple of weeks' time. As if speaking in this traditional haven of fogyish Tory and sometimes extreme Eurosceptic views wasn't enough, it seems that Mr Brown is planning to deliver on the theme of Britain's post-imperial place in the world. Despite his recent about-turn oo the single currency, Mr Brown sees this very much in terms of helping to shape Europe's future, of bringing New Labour's own particular mix of free-market Anglo-Saxon economics and social welfare to the EU party. How this will go down with his Spectator-invited audience is anyone's guess, but fireworks look guaranteed.

Meanwhile, the Chancellor's hectic schedule will next Tuesday see him spoil the fun and games of devising acronyms for super-SIB, the new financial services regulator, by proudly announcing the organisation's name. So those few lucky staff at the City's current regulators who are sure that they will have a job next year are finally going to find out precisely what authority they will be working for.

Not long after Mr Brown's announcement probably some time around next January - super-SIB's staff will sign contracts with their oew boss, Howard Davies. The regulator will then start its vital work immediately. Or

Unfortunately, it could take years. Insiders describe the merger, which incorporates nine current regulators, as "hideously complicated". Aside from the difficulties of findng an acronym to encapsulate SIB, PIA, Imro, SFA, Bank of England, Department of Trade and Industry, Building Societies Commission, Register of Friendly Societies and Friendly Societies' Commission, there are the more fundamental problems, not only of structuring the new body, but also nf deciding exactly where super-SIB's staff are going to reside.

The designated site is in Londoo's Docklands at 25 North Colonnade. However, the building is oo more than a shell right now. Sources say that fitting it up is going to take at least until next July. So it seems as though staff will remain dotted around London as they begin their mammoth task of regulating the City, which is hardly a recipe for good communications. But, as Mr Brown insists, it will all be worth it in the end; no doubt everything will turn out just fine.

Reserved to minds

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Best of luck to BZW equity strategist Richard Kersley, who jets off next week to take part in the New York Marathon. He'll be running up and down the Big Apple with his colleague, Steve Wright, who apparently makes a habit of this sort of madness, and various members of his family. The smart money has Kersley, who admits to never having run more than 20 miles, completing the marathon in around four hours, with Wright showing him a clean pair of heels to finish in less than three. Much gallows humour was prompted around the For Sale signs at the office by the strategists' plan to raise money from the run for eodangered species. Fat-cat clients of BZW, nr anyone else for that matter, can phone in their sponsorship on 0171-773 4305.

Marjorie Scardino, installed as chief executive of media conglomerate Pearson earlier this year, made a late entrance at WH Smith's annual meeting yesterday, where she sits on the board as a non-executive director. Jeremy Hardie, Smiths' chairman, told the 150 shareholders that she had been held up in traffic. In fact, it was a little worse than that. It seems that Mrs Scardino's car was involved in an accident nn the way in, though she emerged unscathed from the prang.

There has been speculation, of course, that Mrs Scardinn has had enough nf being on the Smiths board as it has become too timeconsuming. She dismissed this wholeheartedly yesterday, saying she was staying oo and enjoying it. "Richard [Handover, the new chief executive] has really energised things and it's going to be an interesting time." So there.

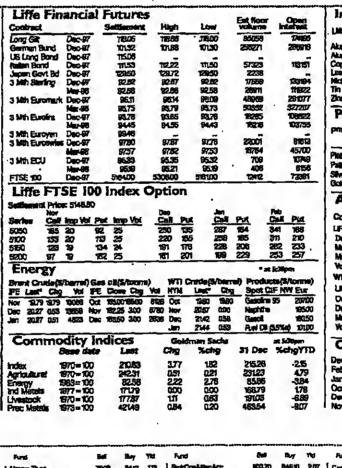
Gone are the times when the only hope an employee had nf reaching the dizzy heights of managing directorship was through 40 years or so of loyal service.

Nowadays a couple of years of financial wizardry seems to do the trick, Goldman Sachs yesterday announced that it was adding a whopping 126 oew managing directors to its ranks, giving a grand total of 410 world-wide, Neither are grey hairs a pre-requisite these days. The majority of Goldman's MDs are under the age of 40.

According to the official press release, the orw MDs "are an outstanding group of individuals whose contributions help distinguish Goldman Sachs as a premier global investment bank". Lesser mortals are merely granted the title of vice-president.

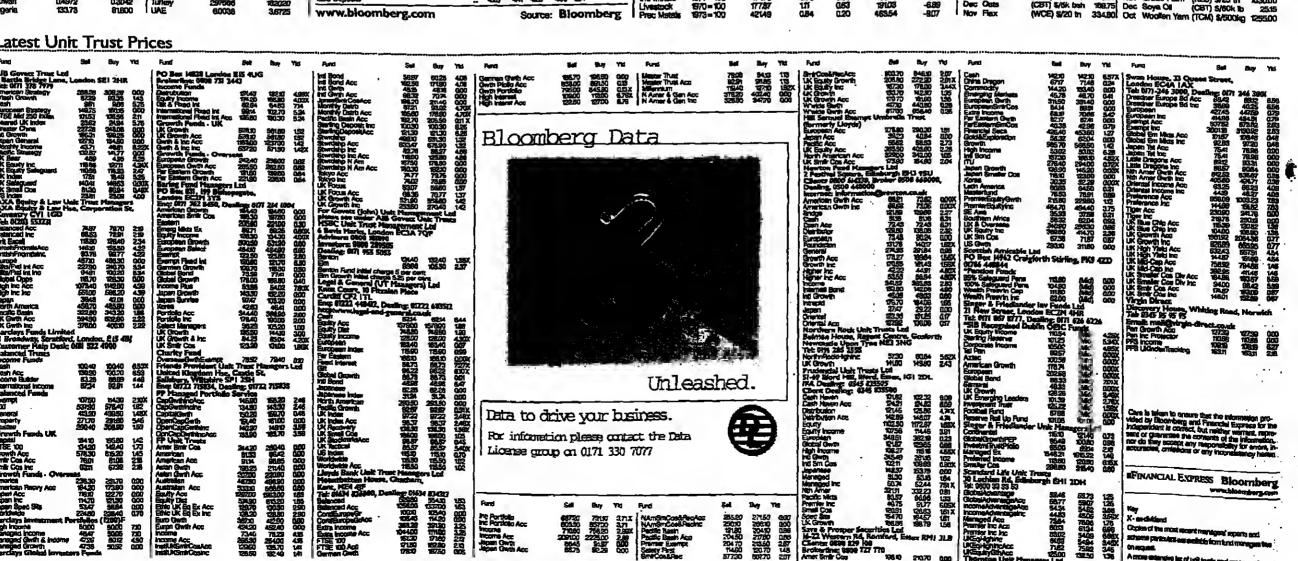


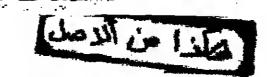
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| m fix/\$ per uz pm fix/\$ per uz Coins (5)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Day's Year's Chg chg chg chg ch                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| National 42200 -250 5875 Platinum 25850 -0.75 1725 Krugiranda 32125 -821                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Silver 497 002 -001 Silver 304 -024 -006 Nobles 40345                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| kiti 32245 -085 -6090 Maple Leaf 335.61 -803                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Agricultural *** School Potatoes Lige Potatoes Light Potatoes Light Potatoes Light Potatoes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| LIFTE Elemno LIFTE Storms LIFTE Elemno LIFTE Elemno AIA 5/25k)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Dec87 1067DO Nov97 150100 Nov97 77DO Nov97 3000 Nov97 8981                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Mar98 109200 Janes 151300 Janes 5000 Mar98 8100 Fab88 7045                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| May98 117000 Mar98 152000 Mar98 8240 Apr98 11950 Apr88 7131                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Vol: 7484 Vol: 5841 Vot: 162 Vot: 74 Vol:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| White Sugar* Freight Wheat Com* Soys Beans'                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Cole peets                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| the se service being troops by an                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Mark Carry Mal.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Other Softs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Dec Live Cattle (CME) \$/40k to 6733 Dec White Maze (SAF) \$/100 mt 784                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| eb Pork Belles (CME) \$/40k to 83.40 Oct Rubber (TCM) Y/ 5k kg 95.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| an Change Juice (CTN) \$75k to 73.00 Dec Cotton (CTN) \$750k th 72                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| (CSC) S/SUK ID 16:00 Nov Crude Palm (KLC) S/25 to 16:30                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Dec Cess (CBT) \$/6/k bsh 188.75 Dec Soye Oli (CBT) \$/60k lb 25<br>fov Plex (WCE) \$/20 ln 334.80 Oct Woollen Yam (TCM) \$/500kg 1255.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

Latest Unit Trust Prices





Australian

players may

go on strike

Talks between the Australian

Cricket Board and the Aus-

tralian players' association over

rights and salaries broke down

yesterday and B players' strike is

Mal Speed, helieved that the

board was totally justified in re-

jecting a proposal on wages and

conditions from the Australian

Tim May, a former Test play-

er, said his group had been

seeking a meeting with the

board for several weeks and

requested the ACB to reveal its

The association says crick-

eters are not receiving a big

financial position.

The Association president,

Cricketers' Association.

The ACB chief executive,

now possible.

# Mr Mulligan resumes quest to join the legends

lethargy of 12 months ago fol-

lowing a summer at the Bristol

farm of his owner, Michael

Worcester. The swollen joints he

usually bony ground in March

August and has not missed a day

of exercise, entirely thanks to

Mr Mulligan returned to

have repaired themselves.

Wincanton plays host to two of racing's most famous names today in Lester Piggott and Desert Orchid. But as Richard Edmondson reports the real star of the show could turn out to be the Gold Cup winner, Mr Mulligan.

The jumps season starts in effect today when the entertainment on offer just off the B3081 you're on the wrong page). in Somerset supersedes anything the Flat can throw at us. Charity race day at Wincanton, in aid of the Injured Jockeys' Fund and the Mark Davies Injured Riders' Fund, has so many attractions that the prospect of putting rubble under your rear wheels at the pitch-hlack close of play in order to escape the course is less dispiriting than oormal.

The youngest luminaries on the programme are Lester Pig-

#### RESULTS

NEWCASTLE 2.00: 1. LOVE ACADEMY (S Sanders) 10-11 tay; 2. Ryefield 11-2; 3. Anvil 9-2: 18 ran. 11/4, 2. (M Johnston, Middeham), Tota: 5:80; 5:20; 5:80; 5:80; Duel Forecast; 54:30.

230, 1231 2160, 2231 Due Forecest FA30. CSF: E594. Thic E320. 2.35: 1. FRONO (K Derley) 6-1; 2. Astrapi 13-8 iso; 3. Surmorer Deal 9-2. 10 ran. fly. 2. (C. Current, Newmorket), Tota: C830; 5220, 5150, 5140. DF: \$1140. CSF: \$1500.

3.05: 1. ALWAYS ALIGHT (J.F. Egan) 11-1; 2. Moushe 14-1; 3. Alumishen 7:-2; 4. King Uno 6-1, 20 ran. 5-1 for Double Bource (5th) nk. 1/h. (K. Burke, Wantage). Tote: \$18.00; \$2.70, \$4.50, \$2.50, \$2.40, \$17, \$2.50.

\$18,00; \$2.70, \$4.50, \$2.50, \$2.40, \$17: \$50.50.
CSF: \$251.23, Tricest: \$596.99, Tric: \$211.40, \$3.35: 1. ON THE GREEN (Dale Glasco) \$12-1; 2. Southern Memories \$4-1; 3. Bela's Legacy \$3-2; 4. Dispoi Gem 7-1. \$18 rs., \$9-2 to Tripan Hero (\$10), 2. \$3/4, (A Hide, Newmarket), Tota: \$76.50; \$2.40, \$2.50, \$2.50, \$2.10, \$2.00, \$17: \$164.80, \$15: \$2.50, \$2.10, \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1 2010 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 12:10 1 £95.35, Tricast: £590.85, Trio: £148.90, 4.40: 1. VANADIUM ORE (J Weaver) 25 1; 2. Essayetises 15-2; 3. Broctime Line 25-1; 4. Clued Up 16-1 16 ran, 11-4 fav Muara Bay (Sin), 11/4, nk. (W McKeown, New-

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Galatasori Jane (Wincanton 3,00) NB: Terao (Wincanton 4.00)

castle). Tota: £3070; £360, £160, £160, £360.
DF: £28190. CSF-£182.55. Theast: £436190.
Trio; £32510 (part won, pool of £39173 to Brighton 340 today). NF: Golden Ace.
5.107. I. MONIS (M. Kennedy, B. 1; 2. Chlnour 4-1 fav; 3. Inkwell 12-1; 4. Patins 181, 17 fax. ½, nl. (B. Efisco, Consett, CoDurham). Tota: £1220; £250, £10, £30,
£440. DF: £1460. CSF: £4547, Tricast:
£442.7. Tric. £8120.
5.40; 1. BRAMBLES WAY /S Cool) 9-

Fighting Times 11-4 tox. 20 rps. 1, rk. (Mrs. M. Reveley, Saltburn). Total: £1150; £210, £290, £150, £2.20. DF: £7990, CSF: £11334. Triesst: £676.29. Trio: £305.90.
Jackpot: not won (pool of £92,237.27 car-ried forward to Brighton today).
Placepot: £200.50. Quadpot: £179.50.
Place 6: £199.35. Place 5: £155.91. Tricast: £676.28. Trio: £305.9

1: 2. Stormicas 12-1: 3. Laou-Laou 6-1: 4.

YARMOUTH 2.10: 1. MOUNT HOLLY (L Deticn) 4-1; 2. Marozin 33-1; 3. Regnel Thunder 15-1 14 ran. 13-8 fav Assalieble (4th). hd, 5. (J Gosden, Novanarica), Tote: 54,60; 51.30, 2700, 2560. DF: 217840. CSF: \$133.41. Trio:

2.45: 1. SICK AS A PARROT (M HBs) 9-2; 2. Middle Temple 8-1; 3. Elekik 6-1. 12 ran. 3-1 fav Bahamlan Melody. hd. 21/2.

12 ran. 3-1 fav Behamen Melody. hd, 2%. (C Dwyer, Newmarkel). Totte: \$4.20; £150. E290; £150. DF: £2780. CSF: £4360. Tricast: £232.6. Tric: £54.60. 3.15: 1. ANLIOU (K Fallon) 5-2 fav; 2. Artif 4-1; 3. Charife Bigtims £2-1. 11 ran. 1%. 3%. U Pearce, Newmarket). Totte: £2.20; £2.00; £2.30, £2.20. DF: £5.50. CSF: £138. Tricast: £94.88. Tric: £254.0. 3.45: 1. Tribl.ERSONG (L Dettori) 2-1 fav; 2. Demier Croites 20-1; 3. Half-Hitch 9-2 7 ran. %. r/k. (Fl Alichurst, £poom). Totte: £2.80; £14.0. \$4.00. DF: £3.50. CSF: £3787. 4.90: 1. MIL A (Fl Hiel) 7-2; 2. Timbervati

4.20: 1. JILA (R HB) 7-2; 2. Timbervati 10-1; 3. Close Shave 7-4 fav. 18 ran. shi-hd, 1%. (R Armstrong, Newmarket). Tota: 55.30; 51.70, 52.10, 51.40. DF; 518.00. CSF; \$36.87, Trio: \$18.50. 4.50: 1. MISBAH (FI HEs) 7-2; 2. Chat-

tan 10-1; 3. Captain Tim 11-8 fav. 13 rmn. 11/s, 4. (B Hanbury, Newmarket). Tota: 0540; 0200, 0200, 010. DF: 01670. CSF: 03572. Trio: 01870. 5.20: 1. FAHS (A Clark) 9-1; 2. Kamin 7-1; 3. Zugudi 7-2 tax. 13 ran. sht-hd, 21 /s. (R Aketurst, Epsom). Tota: £890; £450, £270, £160. DF: £3510. CSF: £70.25. Tric-ast: £250.50. Tric: £74.50. Piace 6: £77.38. Place 5: £13.00.

EXETER

2.20: 1. REVER CHALLENGE (R Supple) 8-1; 2. Lomberdic Evens fav; 3. Norfandic 14-1, 10 ran. 2. 7. (John R Upson). Tote: £1140; £240. £110, £210. DF: £650. CSF: 2873. Tho: £10.80. Grey Stroke (3-1) w drawn not under orders; Rule 4 applies all bets, deduction 25p in the pound. 2.53: 1. DISTANT STORM (B Powel) 1; 2. Dunnes 2-1 fav; 3. Stapleford Lady 9-1-10 ras. 1%, %, (8 Lievellyn), Tota: £1500; £430, £120, £250, DF: £24.10, CSF: £4430. est: 929205. Tho: \$142.20; NR: Persian

3.25: 1. DR LEUNT (R Durwoody) 4-7 iar; 2. Millicroft Regetta 50-1; 3. Tour Leader 15-1.7 ran. 2 11/4. (P Hobbs). Tota: £140; £160, £770. DF: £2510, CSF: £2129. 3.55: 1. The BREWER (R Belany) 7-1; 2. The Minder 15-1; 3. Bletschhorn Bard 7-2 fax. 13 ran. 1; 11. (J Tuck). Tote: 58:30; 52:20, 53:40, 52:50. DF: 55:450. CSF: 53:842. Treast 50:30-72. Tric: \$1:40.70. 4.30: 1. KDEEP ME IN MIND. (C Maude). 4.30: 1. KIESP ME IN MIND (C MINDS) 14-1; 2. CREWITE BOY 8-1; 3. Tight Fist 5-2 11 zm. 5-2 for Tournile Ind. 4 (N Michell) Tolar F13-20; 23:0, 28:90, 21:90, DF; 243-20, CSF; 2670-41 Tricest: 2138111 Trice 258-70. Amenic Amended result: following a stawards' in-quiry Camerre Boy, who was first past the post, was demoind to second place 5.00; 1. TRUTCHEV (A Magure) 9-4 fav., 2. It's Wallace 2-1; 3. Effectual 5-2, 11 ran, 15, 11, (O Nicholson). Tota: \$4.20; \$1.50. \$2.90, \$2.00 DF; \$58.60, CSF; \$58.68. Trio: \$75.60.

Kilimanjaro, trained by Michael Stoute, has been made favourite by phy at Doneaster on Saturday. The colt is their 7-2 market leader, with Aidan O'Brien's Saratoga Springs at 41. Lathrokes betting 7-2 Kili-manjaro, 4-1 Saratoga Springs, 9-2 Mudeer & Mutamam, 6-1 Little Indian, 7-1 Craigsteel, 8-1 Mountain Song, 12-1 Quiet Assurance.

gott's son, Jamie, and Lord Oaksey's grandson, Alfie Bradstock, who will ride ponies to general ambivalence in an exercise which will at least keep twn nld men happy. Lester has got a recurrence of a hand injury, probably the one worn out by accepting presents, and does not ride in the celebrity race. However, bottnm and back of legends will be in close proximity when the Long Fellow partners the grey horse in a parade. (If you cannot decipher either of these noms de plume

The exhausted grey athlete is well into the veteran phase of life now and limits his public appearances to all-expenses-paid flypasts around the country's racecourses. It's the same sort of life for Desert Orchid. Piggott and Dessie will prance around before the Desert Orchid South Western Pattern Chase, which will be illuminated by another Gold Cup winner, the incumbent Mr Mulligan.

This is the orange horse's

first outing since the hig day and he faces just four rivals including Gabish, who is 75th out of the handicap. In theory Mr Mnligan should be able to give him a race if a flat apprentice joins Tony McCoy on his back for the 2m5f journey.

Mr Mulligan greeted us with a shocker on his seasonal debut last year, when a poisoned foot was cured only late on in his preparation for Chepstow's Rehearsal Chase. The nine-yearold is showing little of the

#### the new all-weather gallop at Lambourn. Noel says his charge is in spiffing form, but then he

This year's Derby winner, Benny The Dip, has run his last race. the colt's trainer. John Gosden, announced yesterday. The soo of Silver Hawk gave Gosden and his jockey, Willie Ryan, their first victory in the Classic when he beat Silver Patriarch and Pat Eddery by a short head.

After placed efforts behind Pilsudski and Singspiel in the Coral-Eclipse Stakes at

**Derby-winner Benny retired to stud** dmonte International the fullowing month, he was prepared for the Dubai Champion Stakes at Newmarket last Saturday before a possible tilt at the Breeders' Cup Turf at Holly-

wood Park on 8 November. But after running a disappointing sixth of seven to Pilsudski at Newmarket, Benny The Dip has been retired to stud

In the huild-up to Chel-

nomical or dissemble whatever

it is they do in Parliament.

incurred on Cheltenham's untenham last season Mr Mulligan was transported to Newbury as part of his preparation. During a routine canter McCoy may the Folly House yard of his have wondered if someone had trainer. Noel Chance, in early substituted his mount with something pink and squealing. "He worked terribly and the lead horse would have beaten him half the track if we'd let him," Chance said, "I was seri-

Sandown in July and York's Jud- at Claiborne Farm, Kentucky following consultation between Gosden and the colt's American owner, Landon Knight.

Ryan paid the colt a rich tribnte. "As a small child you grow up wanting to win the Derby and he provided me with that, the Derby win that every jockey would love. When I needed him he dug deep," he

has been known to be eco-nusly disappointed but I couldn't let the horse down. I told McCoy not to worry about it and that he wasn't always that bad. I would sort the press. "McCoy told me: Tm going

to have to tell them that I'm happy. But I'm [adjective deleted] not."

The chestnut himself usually gives punters a clue about the state of his well being. If he shakes his head violently when he goes out on to the course he's going to run well. Chance is just happy to get

the caravan back on the road. He hopes Mr Mulligan has retained the ability to sweep round a race track deceptively quickly. "He's the sort of horse that when he's fit I like to run him because so much can go wrong with horses," the trainer said. "You oever think he's doing much on the gallops and even in his races he doesn't appear to be going too quickly. He just grinds on and oo and on with relentless galloping."

This is a debut and final prep

race for Mr Mulligan, who goes next for the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day. Then it will he back to Cheltenham for a sighter fol-

lowed by the Festival and what has become the near impossible mission of trying to retain the Gold Cup.

Chance has done a bit nf homework when it comes to suggestions that the Gold Cup : he has already collected did not amount to much. "The form book will tell you that the second horse [Barton Bank] went on to win the Martell Cup and the third horse [Dorans Pride] won a Grade One in Ireland," he said. "Cyborgo and Unguided Missile also won races and I've no doubt in my mind that if Imperial Call had won by nine lengths it would have been the best Gold Cup in history."

If he wins another Guld Cup Mr Mulligan will enter an ; exalted stratosphere and he too will be invited to the sort of celebrity shindig we will witness in Somerset this afternoon.

enough percentage of profits made from domestic Sheffield Shield and other matches. It wants higher payments for Shield players in particular, many of whom earn only around £10,000 per season. Noel Chence reports Mr Mattigem as being "fit enough to do himself justice" despite the being the nine-year-olds first appearance since he gained Gold Cup plory seven months ago, jumping boldly and staying on strongly to defeat Barton Bank nine lengths. However, Mr Mutigen might find GALES CAVALIER just too good getting 19th. David Gandolfo survey, another fine jumper, her taled to score since whicing up the season before last with Eveter and Ascot victories but he was numer-up four times last term, including when beaten three lengths by Coultion in this corresponding race, while he was a four-length second to Make A Stand in the Lanzanote Hurdle at Kempton. Terao, who won the Midmay of Fiete Chase at the Cheltenham Featival, followed up at Navibury and, coming from Martin Pipe's yard, will be fit enough for his return. He is a 20th wrong in the weights, however, Glemot will be straighter for his opening third to McGragor The Third at Stratford but is 17th out of the handicep.

The two parties met for about two hours oo Tuesday night and May said the associatinn presented its proposal over terms and conditions to the board at the end of that meeting. He said a further meeting yesterday afternooo between the parties lasted only 30 seconds, enough time for the board to read a statement to the association officials.

They entered the room and read from a statement, basically saying the oegotiations were concluded," May said. "We're extremely disappointed."

May would not rule out strike action. "It's ao option," He said. "It's something oo one particularly wanted to think about prior to this meeting." Speed said the board feels that

the association demands could put the "future of Sheffield Shield cricket at risk and affect club cricket throughout the country." Sri Lankan cricket faced a scandal yesterday over an allegatioo that a cricket board official had asked for money from a television firm for broadcasting rights. Sports Minister S B Dissanayake said the Board of Cootrol for Cricket in Sri Lanka should lauoch an inquiry after televisioo firm WorldTel claimed an official had demanded \$100,000 (£630,000) for exclusive rights to all international matches in Sri Lan-

#### TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football 7.30 unless stated EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP SECOND ROUND FIRST LEG

JC Kertraido (Noti) (S30).
FAI NATIONAL LEAGUE Preumier Division:
Dundaik v Drogheda Vin (7A5).
PONTRIS LEAGUE Preumer Division: Everion
V Liverpool (77). League Dup Group Three; Derby V Walsel (70) (The Special Council).

Basketball BUOWEISER LEAGUE: Leicester Ridere v Der-by Storm (8.0)

Speedway INDIVIDUAL: 16-Lapper, loswich (730).

Other sports

SNOOKER: Bournemouth Grand Prix

TODAY'S NUMBER

#### 120m

The amount in dollars (£75m) that the US Soccer Federation will earn from a new sponsorship deal with Nike. Under the agreement, the sportswear manufacturer is backing the USSF's Project 2010, its plan to boost the game in the US with the aim of winning the World Cup by the end of the next decade.

| THE INDEP             | END            | ENT        |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------|
| RACING S              |                |            |
| LIVE COMMENTA         |                | ESULTS     |
| BRIGHTON<br>WINCANTON | 971<br>972     | 981<br>982 |
| LUDLOW ALL COURSES    | 973<br>S RESUL | 983<br>TS  |
| 0891 26               | 1 97           |            |

#### WINCANTON

2.05 Lonicera 4.00 GALES CAVALIER (nep) 2.30 Royal Action 3.00 Galatasori Jane 4.30 Mutual Agreement 5.00 Mrs Em 3.30 Royal Barge

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

Right-hand, galloping course. Run-in of 200yd.
Course is NE of town on B3081. Templecombe station (service from London, Water-bo) 4m. ADMISSION: Members \$12.50 (Junior Members, 17 to 22 years, £7); Tattersalls 28 (Students 59); Course (and care to course) £4. (Under-169 free info all enclosures).

23 (STUGGRIS 24); Course (and cars to course) £4. (Under-16s free into all enclosures).

CAR PARIC: Free.

■ LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe - 33 winners from 121 runners gives a success ratio of 273%. P Nicholis 23-117 (19.7%), P Hobbe 14-88 (14.3%), R Hodges 12-108 (11.3%).

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy - 5 wins, 80 rides (18.8%), +£19.92; G Bradley 8-32 (25%), R Pennant 7-45 (15.8%), A Maguire 7-48 (14.3%).

■ FAYOURITES: 153 wins, 389 races (39.3%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: 153 wins, 389 races (39.3%).

SOUTH-WEST RACING CLUB NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £2,500 added 2m

year for Alan Jarvis's stable and he has been placed four times this peason, including when short-headed by Mengaab under 9st 12to at Goodwood in August, Selection; URGENT SWIFT

2.30 SOUTH-WEST RACING CLUB NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV II) £2,500 added 2m 

BETTING: 9-4 Royal Action, 7-2 Prince Kinsky, 9-2 Minster Millipidd, 11-2 Scotlich Bambi, 13-2 Whis-perud Melody, 6-4 Province, 18-1 Minsten, 12-1 Foleschree, 16-4 Gahada, 50-1 Kinby Moorakie 1996: See Division 1

ROYAL ACTION, winner of his first three Flat races at all-weather meetings early this year for John Banksts yard, shaped well in both hundle outings last term. Third behind Le Tetau at Pakenham on his debut, the Royal Academy gelding went under only a length and a quarter to Jackson Park at Doncaster in January. The four-year-old can open his account on his first run for Oliver Sherwood, who gets them fit after a leyoff. Scottists Bambi, better known as a cheast, was a decent Flat performer for Pichard Hannoris yard in his younger days and landed an amateurs' event at Policestone in the spring of 1966 for present train-

HYPERION 2.20 Prairie Minstrel 2.50 Miners Rest 3.20 Robert's Toy (nb) 3.50 Rustic Gent 4.20 Ragamuff 4.50 Northern Starlight 5.20 Diamond Half

GOING: Good to Firm (Firm in a few places).

Fight-hand course. Chase course has sharper bends than hurdes course.

clos course.

Recocourse is north-west of towo off A48. Ludlow railway sta-

tion (Hereford - Strawsbury Eng) is 2 miles away. ADMISSION: Club 514 (accompanied under-16s free); Tettersalis 59; Course 55.

2.20 HALFORD JUVENILE NOVICE HURDLE

2.10 Absalom's Lad 2.40 Montano 3.10 Hadith

(CLASS E) £3,000 added 3YO 2m

2 BERYLLIUM (21) (BF) M Pps 10 12 \_\_\_\_\_C Men

JAYANNAY R Hodges 10 12 W Cay 10 2 Administry R Hodges 10 12 W Cay 10 12 Administry PHARTE RIMESTRE. (USA) (12) R Dicion 10 12 Collects WEST AND SEE (8) R Hollinshed 10 12 Sary Lyons

45 (178%).

FAVOURITES: 165 wing, 410 races (40.2%).
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

er, Paul Webber. This is a confidence restorer for the nine-year-old, whose last run was when odds-on and last of three behind No Light in a handicap chase at Huntingdon two weeks ago. Meathe MEITHeld has a fair Flat record, scoring six times over the years - four at all-weather tracks - and will be the better for his fourth behind Lonicera at flauntion on his harding debut. Prince Klinaky, who scored at Epson in April, Ropped when security on his first appearance over timber in Rossat Island's race at Towcester but will also know more about the game this time.

Selection: ROYAL ACTION

3.00 UP AND COMING STATIONS E5,000 added 3m 1f 110yds UP AND COMING STAYERS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D)

3.30 ORCHARD FM NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) \$3,000 added 2m 6f 

landed two years earlier but had to settle for second behind Lord Khalice, be-

4.00 DESERT ORCHID SOUTH WESTERN PATTERN CHASE (LIMITED HANDICAP) (CLASS A) £30,000 added 2m 5f

4.30 GARETH & JESSICA CHARLES-JONES HANDICAR CHASE (CLASS E) £6,000 Bdded 3m 1f 110yds BETTING: 11-8 Galatesori Jane, 15-5 Winley Wonder, 100-30 Menesonic, 18-1 Regima Boy, 25-1

1996. Hernikhem 7 ti 0 R Durwoody 9-4 (R Hodges) 4 ran FORM GUIDE Paul Micholis relies solely on GALATASORI JAME in preference to a couple of other en-

landed two years server our read to serve our bears to be need to read to read to the truth three lengths. Note Changer will have derived considerable benefit from that hurding bow - it was his first appearance since Docember - and he is fanced to go one bette. St Meliton Leisure won a weak heat easing up over course and detance 16 days ago after a tem-length second to Arcite Triumph at MeriteR Resen. There is better still to come from Nigel Hawke's runner and he rates the main danger. Lostomos, runner-up in his last two starts, will like this step-up in trip. Selection: CPTIMSM REJGNS

### ratii recroiss reless solery or GALAT AGANT in Preserence to a couple or other en-tries and the progressive mare looks poised to complete a four-timer. Successful in an irish point-to-point in 1986, the seven-year-old scored time times over timber leat term, two at this track, and she was in with every chance only to topple over at the last when making her lending bow at Newton Abbot in August. Galetason Jane was let down by her jumping when odds on and beaten two lengths by risclestic Gross on a return to Newton Abbot 12 days afterwards but she has done nothing wrong in her three outlings since, whoning the lest two with the utmost ease, Wallery Wonder, such a good long-dis-turble proceduring the lest that seeson before lest but an else-polytion over lenoves meeting. since, whining the last two with the unmost ease, washing when the faces, revenue tance novice hunder the season before last but so disappointing over lences, revenue to the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third to Jet Fulse over the smaller obstacles for his last two races of 1996-97 after a third two races of

-5 deciented -SETTING: 11-10 Mr Mulligam, 7-4 Galos Cavalles, 7-2 Texao, 15-2 Glemot, 250-1 Gabish. 1996: Coulton 8 11 10 J Ostome 2-1 (O Sherwood) 4 ran

FORM GUIDE FORM GRIDE

Local trainer Paul Nicholts, who also has charge of Galateson Jene and Mutuet Agreement, can complete a tracky with MRS EM, even if she is making her first appearance in handicap company. The mare won four off the reel last term, two over course and distance, before finding Go Native three lengths too good in a slowly run three-runner race at Aintree in May, Nicholis will have her fit deepite a 160-day absence. Indian Jockey won ary. Sellep won at Plumpton and was placed in his five other starts last term but would prefer softer ground. Selection: MRS EM

-8 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Mutual Agreement, 2-1 Spring To It, 7-2 Trust Deed, 4-1 Steunch Rival, 11-2 HB

1896; Special Account 10 11 1 8 Femion 14-1 (c Barweii) 7 min.

FORM GUIDE

Trust Deed best Staumeh Rival three and a half lengths over course and distance this month and they should practically dead-heat with the seconds 310 pull. MUTTLAL AGREED, MENT can master them both. The selection, after winning his first two starts this season, at Newton Abbot and Fontwell, turned in an abyernal display in Persian View's rice at Hersford last month but showed that was no bad to be true when one of the favourities.

Hereford ask mornth our andwed was was not been to be true when one of the accounts and regalning the winning thread at Exister a forthight ago. Spring To It, a useful long-distance hundler in 1991-92, finished a distance clear of the third when runner-up to The Gopher at Newton Abbot last month on his reappearance. He was third when market leader for the smatteurs' contest won by Solo Gent at Humingdon and will benefit from York McCoy's assistance. Bob Buckder's Insh acquisition Humead scored by a distance at Downpatrick in August and can go well.

Selection: MUTUAL AGREEMENT

5.00 FIONA BROWN MEMORIAL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS

head, 18-1 Soheil. 1996; Speciel Account 10 11 | 8 Fenton 14-1 (C Barwell) 7 ran.

E) £3,500 added 2m

5.30 K. J. PIKE AND SONS CELEBRITY FLAT RACE 

#### 3.50 CASTLE SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS G) £3,500 added 2m - 8 declared -BETTING: 2-1 Points Fine, 5-2 Proints Misserel, 3-1 Beryllum, 7-1 King-LUDLOW

2.50 COURT OF HILL AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,800 45446 LAKE OF LOUGHREA (24) (CD) (BF) K Balley 7 12 7. 

29993- RYTON RUN (173) (D) Mrs S Odel 12 11 3. 4651- JHAL FREZI (187) (D) A Barrow 9 11 1 ... Mr (I McPhall (7) 6434-4 TELLAPORKY (5) FI Sympson 6 10 10 .... Mr A Middleton (7)

BETTRIC: 2-1 Mozenno, 6-1 Lake Of Loughree, Kinlogh Gale, 7-1 Inch Emperor, Familiek, Jhal Frazi, 8-1 Moses Rent, 18-1 others 3.20 FARMERS STORES HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,700 added 2m 1-2522 ROBERT'S TOY (19) (D) (BF) M Poe 8 12 0 ..... C Maudi U22-38 PERCY BRAITHWAITE (6) (CD) Mes P Whitle 5 11 4 .... 3 1P/P3- SHERWOOD BOY (432) (CD) K Baley 5 11 2 M Willemmon 4 50U-42 SOURCES OCCASION (15)(0) R Curia 4 10 8 R Johnson 2 —4 declared —
BETTING: 24 Robert's Toy, 5-2 Squire's Occasion, 3-1 Sharwood Boy, 7-2 Percy Braitimpile.

ADDR-O DAYS OF THUMBER (5) (D) May 5 Ocal 6 11 1 .... J Culloty
53PL4P HALHAM TARN (12) (D) H Margers 7 11 0... A Dowling (7)
53PL4S RUSTIC GENT (51) (D) 0 Burchel 8 10 13 .... J R Rowmengh
45053/ BROWN SAUCE (534) (D) J De Gles 11 10 B....
Mir R Waldery (5)
POS-S ANOTHERONE TO NOTE (24) H Marriers 8 10 0.3 Curran
45754/ BISSH DOMENION (14) P BOWN 7 10 0... R Johnson 8 Minimum weight: 10st. True handicep weight: Anotherone To Note 9st 12fb, http://doi.org/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001/10.1001

4.20 HAZLIN DOORS NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 

19534/ SMILLING CHIEF (561) (D) R Hodges 0 11 13 ....... C Maude 634624 RUPPLES (5) (CD) M Chepman 10 11 9 ...... W Worthington

NORTHERN OPTIMIST (SE) (D) 8 Liewellyn 6 11 B.,

4.50 GRETE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,100 added 2m 4f -3L282 GiMME (15) (D) J O'Shan 7 Ti 5......Michael Brannan (3) B -2P034 CROCKNAMOHILL (14) K Bitdywaler 6 to 12 ...... Bellany 2P3P- MANVLIANE (281) Mts C Black 7 TO 12 .................... B Wynne FFPU MOSSINGER (\$15) R Simpson 10 10 12 ... Mr A Middleton 11F1-2 NORTHERN STARLIGHT (10) (0) M Pipe 8 10 12. C Meucle — 5 declared — BETTING: 8-15 Northern Stackight, 11-4 Sparkling Spring, 8-1 Gimme, 20-1 Crocknemohili, 25-1 Meanwinne, 85-1 Monainger.

FOFPY2 HILLSWICK (10) J King 8 10 0 J Culloty UDSOF- OUT OF THE BLUE (187) M Exicy 5 10 0 S Wyma - 10 declared -

– 10 declared – um weight 10st. True handicap weight: Hillawick 9st 5lb, Out OI The

2000 931 40. BETTING: 4-1 Hillmutch, 9-2 Bhitant Cuthurst, 8-1 Ragemutt, 8-1 Khallicht 7-1 Sancy Nun, Sweet Classux, Dauphin Bleu, 8-1 others

5.20 CLUN INTERMEDIATE NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m DIAMOND HALL (197) (D) K Burie 4 11 10 .... B McGann (7) AUTUMN BLUNDER A Carol 5 11 4 ... Michael Brennen (3) 3 B- THE KERRY LEDGEND (168) N Chance 4 11 3M Scales (7) 4 COME ON MANRAL & Brighester 5 10 13 ...... R Manney (3) 6 House of Manral — 4 Stellard — 8 8ETTING: 1-3 Dismond Hell, 11-2 The Kerry Ledgend, 8-1 Come On Mem-

BRIGHTON – 12 deciared – BETTING: 5-2 Silveranith, 3-1 Jan'thilln', 4-1 Signatury, 8-1 Arcano Star, 12-1 Browning, Dancing Grey, 18-1 Bellantile, 20-1 others HYPERION

3.40 Misty Rain 4.10 Sword Arm 4.40 Ciro's Pearl 2.40 ALDRINGTON NURSERY HANDICAP GOING: Good to Firm.

STALLS: 139 wins in 343 races (40.5%).

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low best for 5f & 6t.

Left-hand, sharp, downland course.

Course is east of lown. Follow sprposts from town cartre, Brighton station in (fast service from London, Victoria). ADMISSION: Cub station in (fast service from London, Victoria). ADMISSION: Cub 2:2 (accompanied under-15s free); Tattersatis 29 (accompanied under-15s free); Silver Fing 24 (fac 24 per car). CAR PARIC, Free.

LEADRING TRAINERS: R Hannon — 36 winners from 216 runnars gives a success ratio of 167%, G L Moore 25-190 (132%). R Alchurat 22-89 (22-2%), S Dow 21-53 (137-5).

LEADRING JOCKEYS: T Quinn — 55 wine from 220 rides gives a success ratio of 241%, Dene O'Neill 22-121 (162-3), J Reid 16-36 (132-3), J Quinn 14-108 (13%). GOING: Good to Firm. (CLASS E) £4,025 added 2YO 7f ● FAVOURITES: 165 wns in 410 races (40.2%). BUNKERED FIRST TME: On So Easy (240); Selectacker, Blow ing Away & Sode Pop (all viscend, 340).

2.10 PYECOMBE MEDIAN AUCTION MAID-EN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,025 added BSALOM'S LAD PHATE 90 050 ARCANE STAR (SS) A James 9 0 .... 3.10 GARDEN AWARD MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,550 added 2YO 1m ...A Check 1 DANCING SET A Lervis 90 Levis 90 A Daty (5) 10

OD FERCELY GINGER (25) E Wheeler 90 A Daty (5) 10

OD FERCELY GINGER (25) E Wheeler 90 Date O'Helli 11 298340 SIGNATORY (13) R Hamon 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Dame 0'Hell 11
12 SELVERSMITH (FR) (67) S Dow 9 0 \_\_\_\_\_ JF Egynt 12

- 9 declared -SETTING: 4-5 Hedith, 3-1 High Tension, 7-1 Stage Whisper, 8-1 Angebrom 3.40 RACE HILL SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS G) £3,000 added 1m 2f 005000 DANCES WITH HOOVES (25) (D) D Flench Davis 5 0 8. 354300 MISTY RAIN (16) B His 3 B 4 M His 12 3465-0 SURPRISE EVENT (22) W G M Tumer 2 B 2 0 M Confire (7) 17 - 00003 CARCHARGE BLUE (29) T J Naughton 5 B 4 ... T Sprain 4 030054 SELECT STAR (SE) A brvis 884 \_\_\_\_\_\_ 5 Drowne 8 V 000060 FANCY DESIGN (16) P Michael 4 6 3 \_\_\_\_\_ R Franch (3) 2 - 20 declared --SETTING: 6-1 Minty Rain, 7-1 Multi Franchise, 8-1 Lochises, 10-1 Pessage Creeping, Socia Pop, Cabcharge Blus, 11-1 Without Friends, 12-1 others

4.10 HANNINGTONS OF BRIGHTON LIMIT-ED STAKES (CLASS D) £4,900 added 1m 246131 TOUJOURS RIVIERA (25) (CD) J Pearce 7 0 8 .... 10300 SWORD AFM (25) (D) R Charlon 3 0 3 ... 7 Sprake 2 V - 30000 MUHANDIS (ST) G L Moore 4 0 0 ... Charly Morris 9 000-85 SECRET SPRING (19)(0) P Height 5 6 0 D Sweatby (3) 5 285002 SHAMANEC (22) 8 Whode 5 0 0 ... 4 Rold 6 10(555 DUMBER (77.2 Line 6 4 + 1) 4.40 FRIENDS OF QUEEN'S PARK AP-PRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 1m 3f 196yds 4085 OPERA BUFF (19) (CD) (BF) Gay Kelleway 88 t 355360 LOOKINGFORARAMBOW (17) (CD) Bob Jones 9 8 5

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### Liverpool fans unite in disillusionment

Liverpool's abject performance in Strasbourg fuelled growing concerns that something is seriously wrong with the red machine.

Guy Hodgson spent yesterday on Merseyside talking to fans losing patience with the club's manager, Roy Evans.

The face was florrid and the eyes had the dewy look of a man holding back the tears of disappointment. "I'm disillusioned," be said unnecessarily hecause his hody language spoke of graver emotions.

This was not Roy Evans, although this description was appropriate for the tortured features that bad addressed the BBC's cameras at the end of Liverpool's Uefa Cup tie in Strasbourg. This was a supporter, who was numbing his sorrows in a pub 100 yards from Antield.

"Just like that," he had said, as be entered. "Strasbourg went through our defence like a gate," and be opened and shut the door twice to illustrate the point. "Roy Evans says be's driven round the bend by the players. He should try wasting his wages on them."

At the memorial to the victims of Hillsborough, the sentiments were similar. "The defence was crap," a middleaged man said, "and so much for Paul Ince. He was supposed to bring steel to the team, but he's gone missing in Europe against Celtic and now Strasbourg. The Guv'nor? Don't

an unhappy 3-0 defeat in France, it was that the anger of his supporters appeared to be heading in the direction of the players. At least for the moment, his managerial aptitude was not being questioned.

Which makes a change, but, almost certainly, a temporary one. It has become a cliché on Liverpool's local radio stations to hear someone say: "Evans has lost the players' respect," while his tactics and spending are frequent objects of scoro. The consensus on Merseyside is Evans will either step down or be sacked unless the team win something (and they do not

Roy Evans' record as

Appointed: January 1994

A Cup: 6th round lost 2-1 to Tottenham) 1995-96 League: 3rd League Cup: 4th round (lost 1-0 to Newcasde); FA Cup: Final (lost I-0 to Manchester United) 1996-97 League: 4th League Cup: 5th Round (lost 2-1 to Middlesbrough) FA Cup: 4th Round (lost 4-2 to Chelsea) European Cup-Winners' Cup: Semi-final (lost 3-2 on aggregate to Paris St-Germain)

mean the Coca-Cola Cup) this season. As they had said in the pub, almost as a one: "Shergar's got more chance in the Derby."

Ninth in the Premiership and, barring a near miracle at Antield in a fortnight, out of the Uefa Cup, the sense of disillusionment swirling round the city is profound. The more so because the £11m Evans spent in the summer on loce, Oyvind

for Evans as he cootemplated and Danny Murphy was expected to transform a nearly team into the real thing.

In theory, a side that had lacked resolution should have bought a backbone with those purchases, but so far the limpness that marked the performances of the previous two seasons has lived on.

Even Evans seems to have reached a limit. In the past he has protected his charges. pleading for patience, but on Wednesday his frustration boiled over. "It's the same old story," he groaned, "and it's driving me round the bend. I'm the man in charge, I make the decisions, but I can't go out there to kick the ball for them.

You can't defend like that in Europe - or in any competition. I know they're better than that, and they do, too. The beart is there hut we have got to look at ourselves and try to find out where we have gone wrong as a team. We have to decide what is our best side."

Ah, the best side. Supporters deride the players for their attitude but despair at the lack of tactical direction. Evans has oscillated between four and five in the defence so far this season and neither has looked that convincing.

Against Everton be tried a flat back four and lost 2-0 while the attempt to plug the gaps with an extra man in Strasbourg looked shambolic. The space behind the wing-backs, Jason McAteer and Stig Inge Bjornebye, was probed persistently by the French side who were aided by a lack of width among Liverpool's central three.

Tommy Smith, who won the European and two Uefa Cups with Liverpool in the Seventies and is oow a commentator for



A pensive Roy Evans, driven to distraction by Liverpool's failings, suffers in Strasbourg

Photograph: Mike Egerton/Empics

of learning. "Look at Manchester United," be said. "They got used to playing in Europe and are getting better each year, but not Liverpool. They're not good enough. You don't have so many bad results if you

are a good side. They don't look too bad up

front or in midfield, hat in defence they are absolutely awful. 4-4-2 is a better formation than this back five. The wing-backs get caught out of position, while the three centre-halves hold hands in the middle instead of going out to cover."

ning team, echoed Smith's sentiments. "Liverpool's defence did not look right and they were under pressure from the first whistle," he said. "It seems to be a combination of things from a lack of confidence to a Chris Lawler, part of Liv-

erpool's 1973 Uefa Cup win-Evans has harked on about his side's inconsistency for two years and, to an extent, has conquered the problem. No longer sampling highs and lows, at present Liverpool are just average. And at a club which was once a byword for success, there

Chelsea tie under threat

### Little 'close' to a signing

Paul Gascoigne's long-term might be a signing this week and confirming he wants him to future at Rangers was still un- that statement still stands. stay. clear last night as Astoo Villa There might he something. pondered over whether to step up their hid to prise the England midfielder away from Ibrox.

Gascoigne's ageot, Mel Stein, confirmed that he has coigne back to the Premiership la chairman, Doug Ellis, on Ellis's return from the the goalless draw with Athletic Bilhau on Wednesday. Brian Little, the Villa man-

ager, had previously indicated that any deal to hring players to the club would have to wait until the Uefa Cup date was out the way. However, he indicated yesterday that there could be a signing very shortly. "I said be-

The chairman and I will sit down and talk about things over the oext 24 hours."

But any move to bring Gased oner to Vil la's European campaign appears to be on bold until Gascoigne's intentions are known.

Stein said: "I have spoken to Doug Ellis today and he has asked the same questions as everybody else. Everyone wants to know wbether Paul wants to leave Rangers and there is no point in anybody doing anything about it until we do. I know Rangers want him to stay. Waifore the weekend that there ter Smith spoke to me this week

After Gascoigne's virtuoso display in last Saturday's 7-0 defeat of Dunfermline, Smith said then that only when his chairman, David Murray, had received a bid of £4.5m would a possible transfer be discussed.

Ellis and other Premiership chairmeo must now decide whether to follow up their interest with an offer that could tempt Gascoigne to quit the Scottish champions. One of the clubs linked with the player, Crystal Palace, look to have ruled themselves out. Steve Coppell, the manager, confirmed that he made an enquiry four or five weeks ago, but feels that money would be a stumbling block.

#### Banks backing all-seat stadiums

Tony Banks, the Minister for Sport, has confirmed that the Government has no plans to bring back terracing to football grounds. He said there would be no review of the Taylor Report recommendation of all-scaters stadiums in the top two divisions.

Speaking at a conference on the financing of clubs, he said: "The quality of facilities throughout these divisions rank with the best in the world and give us a head start in our bid for the 2006 World Cup."

He added: "The Governmeot has no plans to review the Taylor Report's recommendations which identified all-seating as the factor which contributed most to spectator safety."

Cheisea players could be forced to spend an extra day in Tromso if today's Cup-Winners' Cup tie is postponed until tomorrow because of a saturated pitch at the Alfheim Stadium.

Rund Gullit fears that he and his

The Chelsea squad had to train indoors following their arrival last night in the Norwegian town 200 miles north of the Arctic Circle. And at the airport the party had to pick their way through more than a foot of snow in order to move the 150 yards from the runway to the airport terminal.

The covers and undersoil heating have done their job in keeping the snow off the surface, but the price has been that the top of the pitch is ablit's view, seemingly unplayable. "They have covered it but it doesn't look like a pitch to me," "Perhaps tomorrow it will be

different, and of course we want to play - there has to be a game and I know Tromso have put in a lot of bard work. But if the referee tries to bounce the ball and it just sits there and doesn't bounce, because it's so wet, then you simply can'l play."

The Uefa observer, Jürgen Wemer of Germany, was due to fly in late this evening and an inspection is planned for this morning. If he rules that the pitch is unplayable then Chelsea could be forced to stay until Fri-

solutely saturated and, in Gul- day to get the game played, although the decision might be taken to start again - perhaps in Oslo - in two weeks' time, putting the second leg back until the next round of European matches in late November. Tromso officials remain con-

fident that the match would go ahead, with around 100 volunteers drafted in to clear the stands and terraces to allow the capacity 6,438 crowd to get in. Johnny Ingehrigtsen, the

club spokesman, said: "We had crossed our fingers that winter might not come until next week, but it arrived on Sunday. We're quite sure, though, there will be a game."

Martin Lipton -

### New batch of French players fail drug tests

The French football federation new tests involved three playindicated yesterday that more players had recently failed dope tests, but declined to reveal the names of the players or the substances involved.

The FFF were not expected to elaborate until testing of B samples bad been completed. "Following multiple tests recently ordered by the FFF, it seems that the results uf some tests have revealed banned substances in the urine of some players," the FFF said in a state-

L'Equipe said yesterday that the confirmed.

ers, who allegedly took steroids.

er Cyrille Pouget had failed a test for the banned steroid nandrolone.

The FFF said they would "launch an emergency plan to The French sports daily fight doping" if the tests were

L'Equipe added that a judo fighter was also involved. The French First Division team Le Havre annuunced earlier this month that their strik-

Last season, the Lille midfielder David Garcion was suspended for nine months for taking the same drug.

Coca-Cola has refused to confirm whether they are about to end their sponsorship of the Scottish League Cup. The company has invested over £3m in the competition over the past four years, but their present deal expires after the 30 November final between Celuic

> Bell's bas already withdrawn their £10m hacking of the League programme following uncertainty over the proposed breakaway by the top 10 clubs.

and Dundee United.

The loss of another major sponsor would be a further dency of Benfica. A vote is due in the 18-strong league.

blow to the Scottish game, with to take place on 31 October for the smaller clubs looking for assurances over their share of future sponsorship deals.

A Coca-Cola spokesman would only say: "Discussions about a new contract are on-go-

The former Sweden coach, Tommy Svensson, was due to meet Benfica officials in Paris yesterday to discuss becoming the

Portuguese club's next manager. Svensson told Swedish paper, daily Expressen, he would meet João Vale e Azevedo, a

candidate for the next presi-

All the candidates have set

the position.

out their plans for the future, one of them favouring the former England manager Bobby Robson as coach, who is still employed by Barcelona, another putting Coventry's Gordon Strachan at the top of

his list to fill that job. "Benlica are a team in crisis and there bad been a chaotic situation at the club," Svensson said. "They've already burned their chances of winning the league." Benfica are seventh

#### on Frenchman West Ham expect to complete son and Iain Dowie up front."

Redknapp closes

the £400,000 signing of French striker Samassi Abou today after he flew back to London for a medical examination yesterday afternoon.

It will end a three-year trail for their manager, Harry Redknapp, who first spotted Abou, now 24, playing for his country in the Toulon Under-21 tour-

But the front runner from Cannes is likely to have to wait for his first-team debut a while longer than West Ham's next Premiership game at Leicester City on Monday night.

Redknapp said: "Everybody knows we are short of strikers and I've been trying to bring somebody in to thicken up the squad. We've kept our eyes on this lad since I saw him in Toulon a few years ago and our coach, Frank Burrows, went over to France to watch him play well against Auxerre the other week."

Cannes originally put a £1m plus price-tag on Abou, but have finally accepted West Ham's offer after weeks of negotialing which included the player taking part io training with the East London club.

"It is not a lot of money to pay by today's standards and we are hopeful he will be very good

value," Redknapp said. "But he is coming in as a squad player first of all because even with Paul Kitson out in-

jured we've still got John Hart-

The arrival of Abou is cxpected to trigger Ian Moore's return to Nottingham Forest after just one substitute appearance on loan to West Ham.

Struggling Huddersfield are trying to sign former Norwich and Welsb international midfielder Jeremy Goss for a nominal fee from Hearts. Goss played a trial for the First Division's basement club yesterday hut Huddersfield face competition from Peterborough United for his signature.

Peter Jackson, the Huddersfield manager, hopes to make two signings by the weekend. He also spoke to the Southampton striker, Mickey Evans about a £700,000 move, hut he is likely to choose West Bromwich Albion.

Matt Elliott, the Leicester centre-back who has been attracting rave reviews this season, will sooo have to decide which country he wants to play for. The London-born 28-yearold has already been talked about as an England possible for the World Cup finals next year and has been sounded out by Scotland because his grandmother was born north of the border.

Today he revealed a third option - Northern Ireland, the country once captained by his club manager, Martin O'Neill. "My grandfather was born in Northern Ireland, so that's another possibility," he said.

#### Adams quits Swansea after 13 days

After being dumped by Fulham last mooth, Micky Adams yesterday walked out of the club that appeared to have revived his managerial career.

Adams announced he was quitting Swansea after a mere 13 days in charge following talks with the Welsh cluh's board. He was reported to be unhappy that funds for oew signings had not been made available to halt the club's slide down the Third Division. Despite receiving more than £500,000 in the summer from transfers, Swansea bave spent only £160,000 oo three oew players.

Adams, who took over from the sacked Jan Molhy after he bad made way at the Thamesside club for Kevin Keegan and Ray Wilkins, said: "I'm bitterly disappointed and the worry is that the fans who have supported me wbolebeartedly will feel like I've let them down.

The past month I have not enjoyed. It is unfortunate what has happened and it is with deep regret that I am

Nicky Summerbee may also be on the move soon, from Manchester City to Bolton, with Jamie Pollock travelling in the opposite direction.

Summerbee, however, is valued at £2m by City, who do not rate the former Middlesbrough player in the same price bracket and will want a cash adjustment of around £500,000. City have also asked about taking a second Bolton player in exchange.

Meanwhile, Bolton are giving a trial to the Bulgarian international Ilian Kiriakov. The midfielder plays for Aberdeen and is available at around £300.000 but will need a work permit, which may prevent the

Bulgarian's transfer. Colin Todd can expect his South African defender Mark Fish to make his return as early as Sunday's match against Chelsea after a knee operation that was expected to keep him out until the New

Channel 5 and RTE are to broadcast live coverage of both legs of the Republic of Ireland's World Cup play-off against Belgium, in Duhlin on 29 October and Brussels on 15 November.

- Andrew Mortin

#### Queue to play England

England will decide during the next 48 hours who will be their first opponents since qualifying for the World Cup finals - with Portugal and Colombia believed to be among front-runners for a Wembley date on November 15.

Glenn Hoddle's squad have now acquired such a high reputation, that other World Cup bopcfuls are lining up to test their themselves against one of Europe's favourites before next summer's finals in France.

The Foothall Association confirmed yesterday that 32 teams want to face England on one of the six available friendly international dates between now and the end of next Mayand many of them want to come to Wembley in November.

Portugal were at one time thought to be England's first choice with Sweden and Norway possibly in the running. But Colombia, who are one of the South American qualifiers, could be a better bet.

Suggestions that Portugal who have missed the finals after finishing third in Group 9 - have withdrawn their request to meet England next month were denied by the FA yesterday.

After the November 15 date at Wemhley - when eight other European sides, including the Republic of Ireland, will be battling it out in the play-offs -England are not scheduled to be in action again until February 11.

The Republic of Ireland and Wales are believed to be among the countries who want to play England theo or on later dates which are available before the finals, namely March 25, April 22, May 23 and May 30.

An FA spokesman. Steve Double, said: "We will announce next month's opposition soon but for the friendly games next year, our opponents won't be decided until after the draw for the World Cup finals."

#### Sugar spices lecture with talk of dummies, prune juice and inflation

They were wincing at the FA yesterday as they digested Alan Sugar's view of the way the game is run.

The Tottenham chairman chose the Oxford Union as his platform and, as Nick Duxbury reports, he did not hold back.

Attendances are up. England and Scotland are in the World Cup finals, and Alan Shearer has been seen kicking a ball again. Some would say football has never had it so good, but not Alan Sugar, who painted a

dark picture of the country's na- had asked to address the mediate problem of how to tional sport for the 200 students - some wearing Spurs shirts - gathered in the library of the Oxford Union on Tuesday.

be heading towards financial ruin and likened the Football Association to "dummies" ern the game.

he said. "Laneaster Gate is like Madame Tussaud's. We tell our people to keep moving so we can tell them apart from

Football, he warned, could

who do not know how to gov-"They [the FA] don't have a clue what is going on in the outside world. They're out to lunch. Commercialism has completely taken them over,"

the dummies."

Union as one of a series of lectures which bring together people who are ahead of the game in their chosen fields. But the talk was almost exclusive-

ly football and it was not just

the FA who felt Sugar's whip. Club chairmen were criticised for being greedy and he also attacked the "prune juice cffect" of £150m from television pouring into the game at one end and straight out of the other. "The money just ends up in the hands of agents, in inflated transfer fees and in higher

players' salaries," he said. "All Sky's money has done

is satisfy the immediate greed

of certain clubs. It gives them

the means today to fix the im-

win a game on the Saturday. "If we are not careful the game will fall away until we just have Manchester United play-

urday in different strips. "Inflation in football is out of control. There will he a hig collapse somewhere and nohody will help them out." Sugar, who had made his first million by the age of 33.

faced 90 minutes of question-

ing during which he agreed that

it was not good business to buy

ing Newcastle on TV every Sat-

Les Ferdinand for £6m and sell Teddy Sheringham for £3.5m. "Pressure brings irrational moves," he said. "Under normai circumstances we wouldn't be as irrational as that and cer-



tainly Les Ferdinand would be the first to admit that he was quite astronomically priced." Sugar ruled out a return to

Spurs for Paul Gascoigne. "It's like going back to a place where you had a good time on holiday, ft's never the same the second time around."

100 mm

#### Higgins is king of the high fives

John Higgins, the world No 2, humiliated Mark King yesterday to reach the Grand Prix quarter-finals at Bournemouth. The Scot sped to a 5-0

whitewash of the Essex lefthander in just 58 minutes, Higgins' Romford opponent scoring just 11 points in reply.

Had the world No 20 not potted a red and hlack in the hal frame, he would have accumulated the lowest points tally in a best-of-nine-frames match -- to beat the mark of Graham Bradley who scored just eight points against Paul Smith in a qualifier for the 1992 Welsh Open.

However, the rout goes down as the most one-sided televised match in the sport's history as title favourite Higgins racked up 456 poiots with hreaks of 67, 54, 55, 54 and 53.

"I didn't know about the record," Higgins commented afterwards. "But it's obviously great to get such a convincing victory. Mark didn't really settle at all and made it a lot easier for me than I expected. Beating Quinten Hann 5-4 in the last round after being 4-1 wn was the kick up the backside 1 needed."

Higgins, winner of the International Opeo in Bournemouth 18 months ago, now meets either John Parrott or John Read for a place in Saturday's semi-finals.

"At least I'll be able to play football on Sunday morning," joked King, the 1994 Grand Prix champion, "Every time I played safe, John seemed to knock in a long red. But he did give me a few chances and had I been on my game, it might have been 3-1 or even 2-2 at the Interval. However, at 4-0 down you haven't really got much drance of coming back,"

Chris Small reached the quarter-finals with a 5-2 win over Londoner Alfie Burden.

eir itch

, Core Prose

Small couldn't match the record-breaking achievement of . Higgins but was delighted to eod his wait for another quarter-final appearance. The 24year-old former bank clerkfrom Edinburgh dropped the opening two frames against Burden, a former Arsenal and Swindon schoolboy footballer.

Yet he overcame a hesitant start to win five frames without reply and comprehensively climtate the world No 122.

#### FOOTBALL RESULTS

Tuesday's late results

TENNIS: EUROCARD OPEN

### **Ivanisevic** loses his cool again

Britain continued to make headway in the **Eurocard Open** yesterday, with Tim Henman taking advantage of a painful afternoon for Goran Ivanisevic, in more ways than one. John Roberts watched the drama and histrionics in Stuttgart.

Tim Henman advanced to the third round of the \$2.3m (£1.5m) Eurocard Open yesterday here after his opponent, Goran Ivanisevic, decided it was time to retire to the treatment room before his tantrums hrought disqualifi-

To be fair, Ivanisevic was carrying an injury to his left arm and shoulder, ailmeots which also caused him to default last Saturday during the semi-finals of the ATP Tour event in Ostrava. But the crowd in Stuttgart's Schleyerhalle, having seen Ivanisevic hit several serves timed at more than 200 kph, were not impressed when he walked to the oet after 39 minutes and handed Henman a match the Britoo was winning, 6-3, 2-0. Spectators booed, whistled and shouted "Pfui!" which roughly translates as "Shame!".

Before making a painful exit, Ivanisevic had tried the pa-

tience of the Italian umpire, Romano Grillotti. The Croat'a most potent shots were delivered in anger - one swing at the court breaking his racket, for which he received a warning. and one ball whacked into the rafters, for which he was penalised a point. Having also thrown his racket past the umpire's chair, Ivanisevic was in danger of being shown the

"1 doo't know why I played today," Ivanisevic said. "Maybe I thought [the injury] was not going to be so painful. Maybe I just wanted to play so badly, and then in the eod I just made myself stupid and they were booing me and they didn't know why 1 stopped. 1 just made a mess for nothing. I am going now to take an MRI [scan], and they are going to tell me more [about the injury].'

Having criticised the quality of Henman's performance the previous day, when he was fortunate to prevail in spite of a stream of service errors against the promising young German, Tommy Haas, it would be churlish not to credit him for keeping his head when Ivanisevic was clearly losing his. "1 suppose it is part of your

game plan when you play Goran," said Henman, who also woo their previous match, in Sydney in January, "You talk about his serve and the way you have got to hold on to your



with Tim Henman in Stuttgart yesterday

volatile emotions during his match Photograph: Clive Brunskill/Alisport

do is lose out in a mental battle. You don't want to be the one going crazy, because we all know he is capable of doing

The brief, bizarre contest began in Ivanisevic's favour. In an opening game which lasted eight minutes and contained six deuces, Ivanisevic broke serve on his sixth break point. During the change-over, Henman was left to cogitate on the fact that seveo of his 18 first serves had landed in the net and two double-faults had negated

"I think the whole tension in both of our minds came from terest. And, obviously, I Wimbledon 1985.

serve. But one thing you can't the first game," Henman said. "It seemed like I played a pretty good game, and he was really on to his returns and hroke me. 1 sat down and was gone a hit mentally. 1 had lost my serve, and against Ivanisevic

that is quite often the set gone.

I was trying to contain myself. Fortunately 1 was able to do . Henman broke back immediately and sensed Ivanisevic's frustration. "There is a role reversal right there," he said. "He was ohviously having trouble with his serves, hut a lot of his serves did go in. I was returning with in-

served a int hetter [than yesterday]."

Henman broke again, decisively, for 4-2, and held to love after Ivanisevic double-faulted to lose the opening game of the secood set. Herman will today play Swedeo's Jonas Bjork-

The aemi-retired Boris Becker was eliminated in the secood round by Richard Krajicek, 7-6 (12-10), 6-4, a result that means old "Boom Boom" will be supplanted by Nicolas Kiefer as the German No I. Michael Stich is the only other German to have overtaken Becker in the 12 years since

RUGBY UNION

#### England stung by injuries to Wasps half-backs Gomarsall and King

Andy Gomarsall and Alex King, the first-choice half-back pairing at Wasps, must both pay highly inconvenient visits to the operating table today. The double injury setback will prove troublesome for country as well as club if King fails to recover in time to mount his ex- dergo exploratory surgery this

the starting line-up against Australia at Twickenham oext

King, marginal favourite to take over England's outside-half duties from Mike Catt, has been hampered by a minor tear to a knee cartilage and was due to un-

Wasps' Heineken Cup quarterfinal against either Brive or Pontypridd a fortnight on Sunday as his comeback match, but will be fortunate to meet that deadline. If he misses out, he can kiss goodbve to his chances of facing the Wallabies a week later.

Gomarsall's problems are pected challenge for a place in morning. He has ideotified more long-term. The scrum- ons, have a ready-made re-

half, dropped by England following a number of patchy displays in last seasoo's Five Nations' Championship, goes under the knife to have a disc removed from his back and will be sidelined for a minimum of three months.

Wasps, the English champi-

placement for Gomarsall in Martyn Wood, who has been outplaying his rival in recent weeks. The Londoners will probably ask Gareth Rees to move from full-back to stand-off to cover for King. The Canadian captain has played most of his Test rugby in the No 10 shirt.

-- Chris Hewett

#### BASEBALL: WORLD SERIES

#### Indians' mishaps give Marlins a field day

Fiorida Marlins managed seven runs in the final innings against Cleveland Indians to take a 2-1 lead in the World Series. Rupert Comwell looks at the extraordinary events of the second highest scoring game in Series

It might get a little colder in Cleveland this week, but the baseball surely can't get much messier than when the Florida Marlins beat the Indians 14-11 in game three to take a 2-1 overall lead in the 1997 World Series.

"This was about as ugly a game as you've ever seen," the Cleveland manager, Mike Hargrove, confessed after his team had tied a Series record of three errors in a single innings to hand the contest to the Marlins.

comfort of one of baseball's strongest bull pens. They left it at 14-7, a margin that even in this Keystone Cops game was beyood the ability of the Marlins to throw away.

Not since 1936, and the allpowerful Yankees of Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig fame, had a team managed seven runs in the final innings of a game. Cleveland replied with what in other circumstances would have been the rich bounty of four runs of their own. But even if they win the remaining two games at Jacob's Field, they will have to return to Miami if they are to clinch the best-ofseven series, and their first

world championship since 1948. And for any impartial spectator not boasting Eskimo ancestry, the southern journey cannot come a moment too soon. The game time temperature was charitably announced The innings in question was the as 49 Fahrenheit (9 Celsius), but ninth. The Indians went into the wind chill made it feel three de-

top half tied at 7-7, and with the grees below freezing. Last night's game was expected to be colder still. The only consolation was that snow was not in the forecast.

Even the numbed fingers of fielders cannot account for all the mishaps of the second-highest scoring game in Series history, topped only by the saga of Toronto's 15-14 win over the Phillics on a rainswept night in Philadelphia in October 1993. The pitchers issued a com-

hined 17 walks, including a record-equalling four by Florida's starter Al Leiter in the fourth inning alone. The night's heroes were the three Marlins' hitters Gary Sheffield, who had a homer and drove in five runs, Darren Daultoo with a two run homer in the sixth, and Bobby Bonilla, who redeemed two earlier errors with some brilliant base running and a decisive tworun single in the ninth. Strange, given that cold conditions are supposed to favour pitchers. But in Cleveland on Monday, it was a strange sort of night.

ATHLETICS

#### Scots' Commonwealth appeal

launched a desperate appeal for help in raising the £250,000 still needed to send them to oext year's Commonwealth Games.

The participation of the 200-strong team who are due to travel to Kuala Lumpur could be under threat unless the extra backing is found. Funds are required to pro-

vide clothing and transport, as well as prepare competitors for the heat and humidity of Malaysia.

Only £150,000 of the £400,000 total needed has been raised, thanks mainly to the £100,000 from the team's main sponsor, the Bank of Scotland.

Now the appeal will target Scottish business, local authorities and professional firms, before the public are asked to lend a hand during a special fund-raising week in March.

John Lindsay, spokesman for the Scottish team, said: "We have raised the funds needed in the past and we are confident

Scottish athletes yesterday with the help of the Scottish public we can do it again. "Malaysia is obviously a long

way and the cost of getting everyone there will be high, and we have also got some team sports for the first time, which adds to the cost. But we are setting out with a positive attitude."

Scotland wicketkeeper Alec Davies - cricket will be included for the first time in 1998 - and womeo's hockey player Val Neil were among those lending their weight to the launch in Edinburgh yesterday.

Chairman of the Appeal Lord Wilson of Tillyorn, added: "The Commonwealth Games are the single most important multi-sports event in which Scotland competes as a nation and one in which we have a proven track record of success.

"We are appealing to all the people of Scotland to play their part in raising or dooating funds to ensure the team who step out to represent Scotland can do so with distinction."

#### Hard lessons on the 'killer' boats

Merit Cup sailed in to Cape Town yesterday to take second place on the first leg of the Whitbread Round the World race. But, as the boat's skipper reveals, some hard lessons will have to learned and quickly.



20

7.7

•••

. 7

GRANT DALTON

when they are racing are

enormous. We have broken

lots of the halvards which

hoist the sails up the mast.

There is damage to the top

of the mast where the wire

has tried to cut a groove as

reaching sails. They just

weren't strong enough hut

we have been faxing back

everything that needs to he

done. All the improvements

to speed and reliability are

start an intensive programme

of repair, maintenance and

improvement, including

work on the water. By the

restart on 8 November we in-

tend to a lnt stronger and a

ing about the opposition. The

performance by Paul Cayard

in EF Language was awesome

and he is clearly oo the pace.

Silk Cut is still the danger

man. He showed that wheo

recording the biggest 24-hour

run of the leg when conditions

There are still five boats

that could win this and to see

one boat break away oo this

first leg is oot new. It neces-

sarily always happens on this

first north-south leg, hut

things will look a little dif-

fereot going east-west and in

nine-leg marathon is prepa-

ratioo and learning from mis-

takes. You can come out on

top overall even if you never

win a leg outright. You have

to put together a string of

want to be too far behind as

the way the points system is

weighted it's pretty ugly for

those at the back.

There is a long way to go in this race, but I wouldn't

consisteotly high places.

The key to winning this

the southern ocean.

became heavy.

I think that Lawrie Smith in

We have also been think-

lot better.

After a day off we will

We have blown all the

it works back and forth.

We were pretty happy with our finishing position, especially considering the set-up of the boat was not ideal for the conditions in which we had to race.

This is my fifth, first leg of a Whitbread race and you always think every one is harder. But, even though the one to Cape Town in 1985 was hard as there was a lot of upwind work, this was the toughest. Back then I also didn't have the responsibility of being in charge.

These boats are killers to sail, so we have been thinking about the whole mix of equipment and procedures as a means of maintaining higher speeds for longer.

The learning curve over the first 7,350 miles has been steep and relentless. We have found out just how physically draining these boats are. It was made worse because of a constant need to repair things as they broke. It meant that the off-watch had to be brought oo deck to retrieve a situation like a spinnaker falling in the water. They then lost more precious rest time having to do the repairs.

Eveo though we had enough food at the end to make four or five meals a day. we will need to take bigger rations to boost energy levels for the oext leg and we are looking at increasing the crew from II to 12.

We had always intended to be 12 on the shorter legs because we expect there to be less chances for sleep. A key questioo for the run to Fremanule will be whether the new man and his skills fit in.

As far as hardware is concerned, one of the things we will be looking at are fittings which, even though they are supposed to have a hreaking strain of 10,000 kilos, were still hreaking regularly. We ooce nearly lost the mast.

The loads oo these boats

#### Dalton happy with second

Grant Daltoo was in business-like form in the early hours of vesterday morning as he brought Merit Cup into Cape Town for second place in the first leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race.

Daltoo was 20 hours behind Paul Cayard in EF Language, and an hour and a half ahead of the third-placed Knut Frostad in Norway's Innovation Kvaerner, And he was happy with that.

"The crew," he said, were going really well, hut they are tired. Coming second may not always sound great, but we thought it was good. We thought we had done a mighty job."

Second place gives Dalton 110 points on the event's complex scoring system. Cayard has 125 and Frostad 97.

Expected in fourth place today is Britain's Lawrie

Smith in Silk Cut as Chris Dickson's Toshiba, in sixth, is again hunted down by Ross Field's America's Challenge, the distance between them fluctuating hetween three and 10 miles with less than

500 miles to go.

There was more woe for last-placed Brunel Sunergy, having to stop off in Brazil to replace a rudder broken in a collision with a whale. The Dutch boat reported that its mast has been damaged and will have to be repaired by splicing in a new top 50 feet in Cape Town.

m Cape Jown.
Whiteread Round THE World.
RACE (first lag. 7,350 miles,
Southweapton to Cape Town): 1 EF
Language (Swe) P Cayard 29 days 16hr
Stein 20esc; 2 Merit Cup (Monaco) G
Delfon 30: 12:22:11; 3 Innovation Nosemer (Nor) K Frostad 30: 43-56. Still to finleft: 4 Sik Cut (GS) L Smith 149 miles
to go; 5 Chesale Recing (US) M Fischer 379; 6 Toetibe (US) C Dichson 478;
7 America's Challenge (US) R Field 482;
2 Swedish Meach (Swe) G Krartz 591;
0 EF Education (Swe) G Krartz 591;
0 EF Education (Swe) C Guillou 809; 10
Brune Sunergy (Natr) H Bouschole 334.

Stuart Alexander

#### SPORTING DIGEST

MEN'S Stor RACE (Beignade) Leading po-sitions: 1 H Remissis (SA) 7min 19sec; 2 L Jesus (Por) 7/22; 3 P Brigat (Ken) 7/32; 4) Pesses (Cz Pep) 7/23; 5 J Maind (Ken) 7/29; 6 C Nyberg (Swe) 7/27; 7 A Arisif (R) 1737; 8 2 Drigyn (Rus) 7/42; 0 J Bensa (Yug) 17/43.

ESACITHMOV CHRIA (Riverside Leieure Cen-tre, Esets) Third match of 5. J Davies and N Back lest to Lu Zhong and Harge Nanyen 14-17 13-18; P Knowies it J Xingseng 5-7 5-12; C Hurt and 2 Archer it Chang Au sen Na. Xusma 5-5 5-6; J Mann feet to Pi Hongyen 4-11 4-11; J Robertson and L Cole lest to Zhu Pang Hurng Nanyen 15-11 5-15 2-15; England 2 China 3.

Raseball WORLD SERUES (Cleveland): Florida 14 Cleveland 11 (Florida lead best-of-seven se-ries 2-1):

Basketball The Budweiser League isam Shaffield Sharks have signed the 6ft 3in quard Terreli Myers to boost their back court following Chris Finch's promo-tion from player to coach.

BOXING
WORLD AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP (BuWORLD AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP (BuReference 48to quarter Brade; R Dyd

American Larice Armstrong, the 1993 world champion, will make his come-back to riching in early January after a year out of the game being treat-ed for testicular cancer.

Golf
The European tour yesterday announced the richest tournament on mainland Europe. Prize money at the 1998 Tournament Players Championship of Europe is going up from £750,000 to £15m, the largest amount outside Britain, and by 2001 it will reach at least £1.4m. Deutsche Bank and the leading German softwars manufacturer SAP are sponsoring the event. The tournament will be played at Gut Kaden in Hamburg on £9 May-1 June. it will return there in 2000 and in alternate years will be staged at St. Leon-Rot just south of Haidelberg. Bernard Hunt, the former Ryder Cup Leon-Rot just south of Haddeberg.

Bernard Hunt, the former Ryder Cuppleyer, made it third time lucky when he and his ameticur pertner, John Weich, worr the Ping Super 50s title with a 15-under-par 131 at Selsdon Park yesterday. Hunt, twice a Ryder Cup captain in the 70s, and Weich anting the Foothlis club, had finished runners-up in the previous two

Ice hockey NH1: Princisions 7 Tempa Bay 1; Dels 1 'Vancouver 5; Edmonton 1 Boston 2; Phoenix 3 Anaheim 4; Los Angeles 3 NY Islanders 2.

Rugby League
Cidham Athletics Boundary Park
ground wit be available next season
for use by a new Oldham Rugby
League Club operating without News
Corporation funding in the Second Division. The business consortium backvision. The dusmities constituting the proposed new club witt make a final decision after concluding nepotiations over rant, which will be less than last year's £7,000 per game for Super League matches. Hochdale have also made their Spotland ground aveitable. Salford Rads have signed lan Marsh,

the teenage centre from Widnes Tigers Amateur Club, on a three-year Castleford Tigers have signed the for-mer Oldhern Bears half-back Francis Maloney on a two-year contract. Castleford beat off competition from London Broncos to sign the 24-year-old ex-Leeds and Warrington player, who became a free agent last week

after Oldram's financial collapse.

Rugby Union Ireland lock Jeremy Davidson could still face New Zealand in Dublin on November 15, even if he is unable to play because of his knee injury for the next because of his knee injury for the next two weekends. The manager, Pat Whelan, underlined the value he places on the Lions forward yesteray when he said: "It's not a question of picking him regardless, but even if he is ruled out over the next two Seturdeys, but is then passed fit, he would certainly get into the side." SWALEC CUP Third-round draw Dinas Powyer Aberason Curiar; Pwitter Vardre; Seven Sisters v Tycroes, Bynea v Penygraig, Senghanydd v Fallafoet, Aberason Curiar v Newtown; Cermanthen Quins v Owentown; Newtown; Cermanthen Quins v Owentown.

Senghernydd y Fellinfoet; Albertawnboi y Newtown; Cermarthan Quins y Owngwrach;
Bala y Morriston; Gilamorgan Windrs y
Cermilynfall; Nantymost y Croesycallog; O
Brydlane y Blains; Tylorstown y Crepetow;
Bedwas y Pil Harness; Albertam y Bjaengarw, Treherbert y Aberdam y Bjaengarw, Treherbert y Aberdam; Newport
Seracens y Meesteg Quins; Maesting Celtic
y Pontychu; Wrechern y Tormawr, Narberth
y Brymmaur, Timsasmr y Newcaste Emilyn;
Tenby Utd y Whitland; Gtymnauth y
Llamissan; Beddau'r Glais; Klöwelly y Percoed; Ynsyshyri y Llandudno; Ystadgynfeis

v Resolven; Llanishen v Cwmgors; Neath Aih v Tiebenos; Carmerthen Ath v Llanishenan; Mountain Ash v Crunilin; Porthoawl v Birchgrows; Garmefffeith v Oskolsis; Abergwond v Cowlorldge; Pyle v Rhymney; Builth Wells v Abergwerny; Tonyretell v Penerit; Tredegar v Yetrad Rhondas; Cifynydd v Glatech Godr; Rhigos v Kenfig Hit; Tondu v St Peters. Ties to be played Saturday; 22 Novembec

Saiting

Sailing
Pete Goss and his partner, Raphael
Dinell, continue to hold fourth place
In the 50ft BMW Performance, with
2,500 miles to go to the finish of the
Jacques Vabre two-handed transatlantic race. There are three 60-footers ahead of him, one behind out of
the 10 which started from Le Havre.
The other British competitors in the
monohulis, Nigh Vaughan and Amet
Taylor have retired. The multihulis are
led by Leurent and Yvan Bourgnon
in Primagaz.

Robert Scheidt is set to win his third successive World Laser Champi-onship at Algorato, Chile Britains Ben Alnsie is lying fourth behind two New Zeelanders, Nik Burfoot and Hamish Pepper. Another Briton, Hugh Styles, is lying fifth.

After a delayed start to the Tenerife to Fort de France, Martinique, leg of the Mini Transat, singlehander Mark the Mini Transat, singlehander

Turner has moved into the lead, with Ellen MacArthur, the only woman in the race for 6.5m yachts, lying sixth. Two days into her attempt to break the Round Britain sailing record, Tra-cy Edwards and an all-woman crew of nine, was still ahead of schedule in the 92ft catamaran Royal & Sun Allance.

GRAND PRIX (Bournemouth) Fourth round: J Higgins (Sco) bt M King (Eng) 5-0; C Small (Sco) bt A Burden (Eng) 5-2.

Tennis Tennris

MERICAN OPEN (Merico City): Singles, first round: F Clavet (Sp) bt A Gauderra (it) 4-86-26-0; J-A Minn, (Sp) bt J Sanchez (Sp) 7-56-3; F Meligent (Sp) bt M Repoint (Unity) 4-87-86-1; L Antold (Arg) bt H Gunny (Arg) 6-10-86-1; J Burlo (Sp) bt T Nydeht (Swe) 6-06-0; As (Br) bt D Sanguinent (ft) 6-87-56-2; N Lapental (Equ) bt O Opprodov (Libelt) 6-26-2; R Delgado (Par) bt O Gross (Ga) 6-06-1; A Hernandez (Mer) bt M Osorio (Mery 6-16-1.

EUROPCARD OPEN MEN'S TOURNAMENT (Stautgert) Stogles, second round:

AND CARD OF THE MENT TOURNA-MENT (Shuttpert) Singles, ascond round: G Kuarten (Br) bt H Arazi (Alor) 6-3 6-7 6-3; P Refer (Ase) bt T Encylat (Swg) w/c; P Ko-rda (Cz Rep) bt C Woodnuff (US) 6-3 6-3; Y Kaleinikov (Pue) bt A Machredov (Usr) 6-0 2-3 6-4; M Rics (Chile) bt K Kucera (Swk) 6-7 6-4 6-4; T Harmen (GB) bt G Nemisevic (Croa) 8-3 9.0 (GB)

BELL CHALLENGE WOMEN'S TOURMAMIENT (Quable) First round: O van
Roost (Bel) bt E Callens (Bel) 64 6-2; M
Gzythowsica (Pol) bt R Simpson (Can) 1-6
6-1 6-3; L Golarsa (II) bt A Dechaume-Ballerat (Fr) 6-3 6-1; å Jeyaselein (Can) bt A
Gausichon (Med) 3-8-7-5 6-0; M A Verso (Ven)
bt M Tu (US) 6-3 6-2; P Hy-Bouleis (Can)
bt A Flussi (France) 6-2 3-6 7-5; M
De Swendt (SA) bt R Studies (Aus) 6-4
4-6 6-3.

4-6-5. WTA TOUR RANKINGS: 1 M Hingls (Swit) 8630pts; 2 J Novotna (Cz Rep) 3590; 3 M Seles (US) 3425; 4 L Davenport (US) 3307; 5 A Costzer (US) 3735; 6 I Misjoi (US) 2955; 7 I Spirise (US) 2427; 6 M Pierce (US) 2400; 0 A Senchez Vicario (US) 2157; 10 C Mactinez (US) 2355.

Weightlifting

Weight lifting
The International Weightfifting Federation said on Wednesday it will not verify the series of world records set by Chinese lifters at the National Games in Shanghal, citing a lack of Internationally recognized doping controls. The decision cast a shadow over the remarkable performances in Shanghal, where Chinese women have set world records in weightfiring, swimming and track. To IMF aimfoling delegate has been present doping delegate has been present and no IWF-controlled anti-doping testing has been effected, the fed-

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Ben Crenshaw, four times a member of the US Ryder Cup team, was yesterday named as captain of the squad when it tries to reclaim the cup in 1999.

Meanwhile, the man who extended Europe's reign in Spain - Seve Ballesteros- underlined his intentions not to lead another defence.

Ben Crenshaw, twice winner of the Masters, will take over the Ryder Cup team that was beaten by Europe at Valderrama in Spain last mooth and has failed to hring home the trophy in five of its last seven attempts, it was announced yesterday.

The choice of Crenshaw, 45, made sense in that he is a veteran player with Ryder Cup experience and is still active on the American PGA Tour and he will be in a good position to evaluate his players.

Meanwhile, the victorious skipper, Seve Ballesteros. who has been insisting since Valderrama that he will not be European captain again, has cut short all speculation that he might be persuaded to serve again, by confirming his decisioo in writing.

"I have written to the PGA resigning as the captain and I will oot be changing my mind," said Ballesteros from Madrid yesterday, where he is com-

peting in the Oki Pro-Am, which is being staged on the two La Moraleja Golf Club courses this week.

"I hope to be playing well enough to qualify for the team next time. If I don't I might not eveo watch the next match. I enjoyed the experience as captain this year hut once is

While Ballesteros was confirming the end of his tenure as captain of the European team, the appointment of the new US captain was a surprise, in that it was generally assumed after the criticism of Tom Kite for the Valderrama loss that the PGA of America would select a sterner, tougher leader. Crenshaw, a shy historian known as "Gentle Ben", hardly fits that image.

Among those considered were Curtis Strange, who won the 1988 US Open at The Country Club in Brookline, Massachusetts, the venue of the next Ryder Cup, Larry Nelson, twice winner of the USPGA Championship, and Hale Irwin, who has won nine times on the American Senior PGA Tour

Kite was also considered to be in the frame but blamed the loss at Valderrama on lack of course knowledge and admitted he erred in not getting more than three of his team members to play the quirky layout until the week of the Ry-

Kite was also criticised for trying to play his team a balanced amount instead of going with the strongest match-

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

ups, as Ballesteros did when he rested the off-form veteran Ian Woosnam.

Whether Crenshaw's team comes up against Ballesteros as a player next time depends very much on whether the Spaniard can pull his game round, starting this week in the unique European Tour proam at La Moraleja, in which amateurs play with the professionals for the first two of the

Last year, Ballesteros finished third with a 12-under-par aggregate of 276, three shots be-

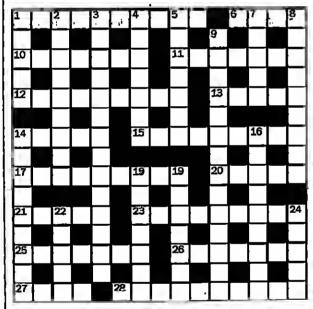
The 40-year-old Spaniard has been trying out a new titanium driver in practice and is optimistic he might do even better than 12 months

His last European Tour victory, incidentally, was in Madrid at the 1995 Spanish Open but on a different course, at the Club de Campo.

His victory chances have been helped by the withdrawal of four of his Ryder Cup team, Darren Clarke, Lee Westwood, Thomas Bjorn and Per-Ulrik Johansson, io the last few days while yesterday Sam Torrance also withdrew after injuring his oeck in the pro-am tourna-

Torrance had played 12 holes when he was forced to stop. As he said later: "It would have been crazy to have cootinned. Now I need to rest the injury because if 1 do it might be better in a couple of

Bobby Bonilla, of the Florida Marlins, safely slides in despite the attentions of Cleveland's Matt Williams in the ninth inning of the third game of baseball's World Series. The game, tied 7-7 at the top of the ninth, ended in a 14-11 win for the Mariins Report, page 31



Supports president in Re-

view Supplement? (10) 23 6 See heads rolling (4) 10 Number hot in dwelling? 25 Turning extremely so

(3.4) 11 NE Scot wants river in landscape (7)
12 Incas? They could be —

difficulties (5) 14 Sportsman makes a high

15 A short companion (4,5) 17 Warm cover, that is, about the German getting hlue (9)

but face is shaved (5)

21 Settled back with very good measures (5) 23 Mellow Goya is gen or

faked? (9) Sound painter's fantastic work of art (7) 26 Raise English tax in gen-

27 Card missing Spade flush there's a lack of certainty 28 Book has virtue and talent (10)

> Secure church collar (5) Answered, being per-

suaded (9) Brits involved with a decanter, becoming dippy

Clarifies penalty among

5 Seaman streaked, it's said with shocked surprise

7 Pool includes Union money (5) Held dear steady during

walk (9) Thanks for the receipt

14 Exhibition — with one viewer? (9)
16 Drop a name in a note

18 Old swan on song in fresh surroundings (4-3) 19 Savings, say, hoarded by organised gents (4,3)

22 Grass hides bit of info in confusion (5) 24 Becomes gloomy - in a

scrape, we hear (5)

BOXING

### Wright shows tentative signs of recovery

Carl Wright was yesterday described by doctors as "seriously ill, but improving slowly". The bulletin from the Walton Centre of Neurology and Neurosurgery did not actually confirm that the boxer had received consciousness, but it is reported that he has come round from his nine-day coma.

John Morris, the Board of Control secretary, said: "We are delighted that Carl Wright is making progress and we are leaving any annouocement about his condition to the hosdone an excellent job for Carl and we will rely entirely on what they have to say about him. And, of course, we are hoping he will make a full recovery."

Colin Moore oft, the train-Walton hospital after the box-

pital. They appear to have ber, has said that Wright responded with an emotional reaction after being shown a be optimistic he may make a full picture of his three-year-old son, Jordan.

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"You can imagine the tension in the room when Carl er who rushed Wright to the opened his eyes for the first a fight for the vacant British lighttime in more than a week," said er was taken ill following his Moorcroft. "I've known Carl fight in Sheffield on 11 Octo- since he was nice and have Sheffield Arena, and in the ear-

trained him on and off for the last four years. At least we can recovery. But we are not kidding ourselves. He is still on a veotilator and extremely ill."

Wright, 28, was outpointed in welterweight title against Antrim's Mark Winters at the

ly hours of the following morning underwent surgery to remove a blood clot from his brain.

Billy Schwer, the talented but cut-prone fighter from Luton, has sought all kinds of specialist opinion during the last four years to toughen up his features. Now the lightweight will be hoping that one of his latest injury-preventative measures will keep his face in good shape during Saturday's challenge for the European title against Spain's Oscar Garcia Cano in Zaragoza.

One pressure

Sque Britannia

Tromso vs Chelsea live from 7:50 tonight on (5)